## Quizlet

## ACT Science Concepts & Vocabulary (from Princeton Review)

Study online at quizlet.com/\_1g6yrk

1. Rate	How rapidly something changes (or moves)	19. Osmosis	Movement of water molecules across a cell membrane from an area of high	
<ol> <li>What are the units of a car's</li> </ol>	km/hr		water concentration to an area of low water concentration.	
speed in London?  3. What are the	mi/hr	20. <b>Crystal</b>	Solids that are made of molecules and feature a regular, repeating geometric shape	
units of a motorcycle's speed in L.A.?		21. <b>Meiosis</b>	The first step in the process of dividing cells for sexual reproduction	
4. Food Chain	The predator and prey relationships within a particular geographic area	22. Mitosis	The process that cells go through when dividing	
5. Antiseptic	Chemicals that kill harmful bacteria on the surface of the skin.	23. Concentration	In chemistry, the amount of a chemical compared to the amount of water in a	
6. Disinfectant	Anything that kills microorganisms		container	
7. Electromagnetic Spectrum	Radio waves, microwaves, infrared waves, visible light, ultraviolet light, and gamma rays.	24. Equilibrium	A state which occurs when all the forces acting upon an object are in balance (or cancel each other out)	
8. ROYGBIV	An acronym for the colors found in	25. Velocity	The Speed and Direction of an object	
	any rainbow: red, orange, yellow, 26. <b>E</b> green, blue, indigo, and violet. <b>C</b>		The amount of charge through a particular point per second	
9. Weathering	The destruction of solid material due to wind, water, or chemical	27. Resistance	The measure of a material's ability to oppose the flow of electrical current	
10. Meteors	action in the environment.  Any space object that enters the	28. Conduction	The measure of a material's ability to carry an electrical current	
(Meteorites)	Earth's atmosphere.  The relatively malleable layer of	29. Capacitance	The ability of an object to hold an electric charge	
	Earth beneath the crust (and surrounding the lava at the molten core)	30. Mitochondria	The power plants of every cell (which produce the chemical ATP to power all cell functions)	
12. Seismic Energy	The energy released during an earthquake	31. Cilia	Tiny, hairlike projections from cels that serve a variety of purposes.	
13. Global Warming	The theory that the Earth is getting warmer.	32. Fermentation	A breakdown of an energy-rich compound that occurs in conditions	
14. Elliptical Orbit	An orbit in the shape of an oval instead of a circle	33. <b>Gene</b>	A small piece of DNA that is the	
15. Eclipse	When one stellar object blocks the light coming from another.		blueprint for a specific protein.	
16. Comet	A mass of ice, dust, and rocky particles that orbits the sun	34. Groundwater	Water that is found under the surface of the Earth	
17. Asteroid  18. Radioactive Decay	Small rocks in space that become meteors when the enter the Earth's atmosphere  The process in which unstable	35. Fusion	A chemical process that occurs when smaller atoms – such as Hydrogen – are combined to make larger atoms such as Helium resulting in a release of energy.	
Radioactive Decay	elements release particles and energy to become more stable.	36. Fission	A chemical process that occurs when large, unstable atoms are broken into smaller, more stable atoms – resulting in a release of energy.	

37. Fahrenheit	Unit of Temperature used in English countries	54. Mechanical Energy	The energy associated with both the position & movement of an object -	
38. Celsius	Unit of Temperature used in most of the world		specifically the sum of its potential & kinetic energies.	
39. <b>Kelvin</b>	Unit of Temperature used by scientists when in very cold environments	55. Kinetic Energy	Energy of motion – in direct proportion with either the mass or velocity of an object	
40. Freezing point of water in Fahrenheit?	32 degrees	56. Potential Energy	Stored energy which is available to do work (based on either height or a spring)	
41. Freezing point of water in Celsius?	0 degrees	57. Sedimentary Rocks	Rocks produced by small particles, deposited by wind or water, and then fused by pressure and heat into	
42. Freezing point of water in	273 degrees		solid rock.	
Kelvin?  43. Boiling point of water in	212 degrees	58. Metamorphic Rocks	Rocks produced by applying pressure and heat to an existing rock in order to change its form without completely melting it.	
Fahrenheit?  44. Boiling point of water in Celsius?	100 degrees	59. Igneous Rocks	When pre-existing rocks are heated until they completely melt and then are allowed to cool.	
45. Boiling point of	373 degrees	60. Exothermic	Any chemical reaction that releases heat	
water in Kelvin?  46. Recessive	Genes whose features are less likely to	61. Endothermic	Any chemical reaction that absorbs	
Genes	be expressed (only with no controlling gene present)	62. How many layers of the	5	
47. Dominant Genes	Genes whose features are more likely to be expressed	atmosphere are there here on		
48. Allele	An alternative form of a gene that is located in a specific place on a specific chromosome.	Earth?  63. What is the lowest layer of	Troposphere	
49. Subatomic Particles	The smaller parts of every atom	Earth's atmosphere?		
50. <b>Protons</b>	The positively charged subatomic particles	64. What happens in the Troposphere?	All of our weather	
51. <b>Neutrons</b>	The subatomic particles with no charge	65. What is the 2nd layer of Earth's	Stratosphere	
52. Electrons	The negatively charged subatomic particles	atmosphere? 66. What happens in	This is where jets/planes usually fly	
53. <b>Δ</b>	The Greek letter "Delta" - meaning "change"	the Stratosphere?	the most (most stable of the 5 layers of atmosphere here on Earth)	
	9-	67. What is the 3rd/middle layer of Earth's atmosphere?	Mesosphere	
		68. What happens in	This is where meteors and rocks	

the Mesosphere?

burn up

69. What is the 4th layer of Earth's	Thermosphere	86.	Bedform	The ripples formed from streams and rivers flowing over mud.
atmosphere?  70. What happens in the Thermosphere?	This is where auroras occur and also where the Space Shuttle flies	87.	Spectrometer	A device used to determine the chemical makeup of an object by examining the rfquency of light that is reflected from it.
71. What is the 5th/outermost layer of Earth's atmosphere?	Exosphere	88.	Serum	A plasma substance containing all blood proteins not used in clotting. It is neither a blood cell, nor a clotting factor.
72. What happens in the Exosphere?	This is where Earth's atmosphere shields us most from outer space.	89.	Reduction	The addition of electrons from one element to another during a chemical reaction.
73. Phenotype	An observable trait of an individual that is determined by his or her genetics	90.	Oxidation	The removal of electrons from one element to another during a chemical reaction.
74. Fossil Fuel	Any source of a once-living organism that is now used for energy	91.	In the process of iron rusting, what element	Oxygen> because electrons are added to oxygen from the iron
75. What mnemonic device helps you	My Very Educated Mother Just Showed Us Now (it used to be		undergoes the reduction?	
recall the order from the sun of our planets?	> My Very Educated Mother Just Showed Us Nine Planets)	92.	In the process of iron rusting, what element	Iron> because electrons are stripped from the iron by the oxygen
76. Earth is known as the " rock from the	Third		undergoes the oxidation?	
sun"	The falls like makes all heat fills	93.	Greenhouse Gases	Gases in the atmosphere that keep light energy near the surface – thereby keeping the planet warmer.
77. Cytoplasm	The jelly-like material that fills the cell			
78. Erosion	The destruction of solid material due to either natural or human-made processes over time.	94.	What is the most common greenhouse gas?	Water vapor
79. Magnetic Field	A field of energy generated around a magnet or wire carrying electricity	95.	What is the 2nd most common greenhouse gas?	Carbon Dioxide
80. Precipitate	A solid that forms from inside a liquid mixture	96.	Chromosomes	Large DNA molecules that contain the encoded genetic information of a cell
81. Transcription	The production of RNA using DNA as a template (in Biology)	97.	Chlorophyll	A green protein within plants that converts light into useable energy
82. Enzymes	Molecules (usually proteins) that increase the speed of chemical reactions in our bodies.	98.	Buoyancy	A property of a liquid that supports a submerged object with a force equal to the weight of the
83. Substrate	The natural environment in which an organism lives			liquid that is displaced by the object
84. What is the "substrate" of coral?	The bottom of shallow seas	99.	Permeable	Allows the movement of certain substances across a barrier.
85. <b>Flagellum</b>	Tail-like projections that single- cell organisms (like sperm) use to propel themselves through	100	Oscillation	When an object moves back and forth in a regular pattern
	liquids			

101. <b>Diffusion</b>	Movement of substance from areas with high concentrations to areas	120. Light Year	The distance light travels in one year.
102. <b>Corrosion</b>	The breakdown of material due to	121. How many million miles is the Sun from Earth?	93
103. Bedrock	chemical reactions  A layer of rock that lies beneath soil, dirt, or gravel	122. How long does it take a ray of sunlight (in minutes) to reach the Earth?	8
104. Altitude	Distance above sea level	123. The closest star to our sun,	4.22
105. <b>pH</b>	a scale from 0-14 measuring how acidic or basic a substance is.	Proxima Centauri, is how many light years from our	
106. The pH scale is a scale	logarithmic	solar system? 124. Saturation	The point at which no more of a substance can be dissolved into a solution
107. Which pH's are acidic?	When pH < 7		
108. Which pH's are for pure water?	When pH = 7	125. <b>Density</b>	Mass of a substance contained within a particular volume
109. Which pH's are basic?	When pH > 7	126. Catalyst	(mass/Volume)  A substance that helps
110. What substance would have a pH	Water		increase the rate of a chemical reaction
near 7?  111. What substance would have a pH	Ammonia (a very "basic" compound)	127. Atomic Mass	The total mass of all the protons, neutrons and electrons of a single atom
near 12?  112. What substance would have a pH	any corrosive acid	128. Molecular Mass	The total mass of all the atoms in one molecule of a substance
near 0?	The average weather of a region over a long period of time	129. Acceleration	A positive or negative change in direction or speed
114. Boiling Point	The temperature at which a liquid turns to vapor	130. Metamorphosis	Changing from one form into another
115. Freezing/Melting Point	The temperature at which a substance changes from either a	131. Carbohydrates	A class of molecules composed of sugars
116. What does RNA	liquid to a solid or vice versa Ribonucleic Acid	132. Amino Acid	The building blocks of proteins
stand for?  117. What does RNA do?	It's the molecule that transfers the genetic instructions found in DNA to	133. How many Amino Acids does the human body use to create all of its proteins?	20
	the cells so that they can make proteins in bodies.	134. Subduction Zones	Regions where 2 geologic plates in the
118. What does DNA stand for?	Deoxyribonucleic Acid	135. Absorbance	Earth overlap  The amount of light
119. What does DNA do?	It's the molecule that contains the genetic instructions for any living		energy transferred to an object
	organism – to determine what the organism looks like and how it functions.	136. <b>Isotope</b>	A variation of an element in which there are a different number of neutrons in the nucleus

137. Friction	A force that resists the movement of 2 objects moving/rubbing against each other  A particle of electromagnetic (or	157. Vapor Pressure	The measure of how easily a substance mixes with air or another gas.
139. Pressure	light) energy  A force or weight divided by the area it covers	158. Once more of a substance has gotten into the air, what will happen to its vapor pressure?	It increases
140. Force	Anything that causes a mass to accelerate	159. Does plastic have a high or low vapor pressure?	High
141. Independent Variable	The variable in an experiment that is manipulated by the investigator	160. Reactants	The chemicals mixed together in a chemical reaction
142. Dependent Variable	The variable in an experiment that is measured by the investigator	161. <b>Products</b>	The chemicals that come out of a chemical reaction
144. Which is the largest	An individual's combination of genes  Solution	162. <b>Tectonic Plates</b>	Pieces of Earth's crust that slide above and below each other.
between solute, solvent and solution?		163. Elements	Substances on Earth that cannot be broken down further by
145. <b>Solute</b>	The substance dissolved into a liquid		chemical means
146. <b>Solvent</b>	The liquid that the dissolving material is put into	164. As of 2015, how many elements have been identified on the Periodic	118
147. Solution	The combination of Solute and Solvent	Table (in Chemistry)?  165. Ecosystem	The physical and
148. Electrophoresis	A process in Biology in which an electric charge is applied to move	100. ECOSYSTEM	biological parts of an environment
149. <b>Polymers</b>	the particles within a solution  Large molecules that consist of	166. Crust	The thin outer layer of Earth
150. Chromatography	collections of smaller units  The process of separating a mixture of substances into its individual component substances	167. Translation (in Biology)	The process by which RNA is read by ribosomes to produce proteins
151. Aerosol	Any liquid or substance that has been broken into microscopic pieces and that floats in air	168. Fats/Lipids	Long molecules made up primarily of carbon and hydrogen
152. Viscosity	The resistance to flow - a measure of how "thick" any liquid	169. What are fats & lipids used for in our bodies?	To store energy
153. Temperate Regions	Regions on Earth with mild weather conditions	170. <b>Voltage</b>	The force between two points that drives the movement of electricity
154. Arctic/Polar Regions	Regions on Earth with colder conditions	171. Wavelength	The distance between any 2 crests of a wave
155. Tropical Regions	Regions on Earth with warmer and more humid conditions	172. Frequency	The number of waves per second
156. Molecular Polarity	The separation of electric charge within a molecule	173. As wavelength increases, frequency	Decreases

174. As wavelength decreases, frequency	Increases
175. Circadian Rhythm	The 24 hour cycle that most plants and animals on Earth live under
176. Parasite	Any creature that lives on/off the "host" creature to gain its energy, food or support
177. <b>Biomass</b>	The total amount of plant & animal matter within a particular geographic area