

- 39** When a sample of a radioactive isotope decays by α -particle emission, the α -particles emitted have a single discrete energy.

When a sample of a radioactive isotope decays by β^- particle emission, the β^- particles emitted have a continuous range of energies.

What is the explanation for this?

- A** An antineutrino is emitted with a β^- particle but not with an α -particle.
- B** An antineutrino is emitted with an α -particle but not with a β^- particle.
- C** The α -particles have much more energy than the β^- particles.
- D** The β^- particles have much more energy than the α -particles.