

- 12 Radon-222 ( $^{222}_{86}\text{Rn}$ ) is a radioactive element found in atmospheric air. The decay constant of radon-222 is  $2.1 \times 10^{-6}\text{s}^{-1}$ .

- (a) (i) Define radioactive *half-life*.

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [2]

- (ii) Show that the half-life  $t_{\frac{1}{2}}$  is related to the decay constant  $\lambda$  by the expression

$$\lambda t_{\frac{1}{2}} = 0.693.$$

[2]

- (b) Radon-222 is considered to be an unacceptable health hazard when the activity of radon-222 is greater than 200 Bq in  $1.0\text{ m}^3$  of air.

Calculate the minimum mass of radon-222 in  $1.0\text{ m}^3$  of air above which the health hazard becomes unacceptable.

mass = ..... kg [4]

[Total: 8]

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