

- 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 λ 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 m^3 of air.

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

mass = kg [4]

[Total: 8]

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