

- 4 (a) Explain what is meant by *nuclear fusion*.

.....
.....

[2]

- (b) In the Sun, the reactions occurring can be summarised as



The mass of $\underset{1}{\text{H}}$ nucleus is 1.007293 u and the mass of $\underset{2}{\text{He}}$ nucleus is 4.001572 u.

- (i) Calculate the energy released in the production of one $\underset{2}{\text{He}}$ nucleus.

..... J [3]

- (ii) The average power emitted by the Sun is $3.85 \times 10^{26} \text{ W}$.

Calculate the average rate of loss of mass of the Sun.

..... kg s^{-1} [2]





- (c) The current mass of the Sun is 1.99×10^{30} kg. Assume a constant rate of loss of mass of the Sun.

- (i) Calculate how long it will take for all the mass to be lost.

time = years [1]

- (ii) Assess the validity of the time calculated in (c)(i).

.....

 [2]

- (d) (i) For a planet in a circular orbit about the Sun, relate Newton's law of gravitation to the centripetal acceleration that it causes and use this to show that:

$$T^2 = kr^3$$

where T is the time taken for one orbit (period), r is the radius of the orbit and k is a constant.

[3]





- (ii) The Earth orbits around the Sun with a radius of 1.50×10^{11} m and Jupiter orbits the Sun at a radius of 7.79×10^{11} m.

Compare, quantitatively, the speeds and orbital periods of Earth and Jupiter.

.....
.....

[4]

[Total: 17]

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN

