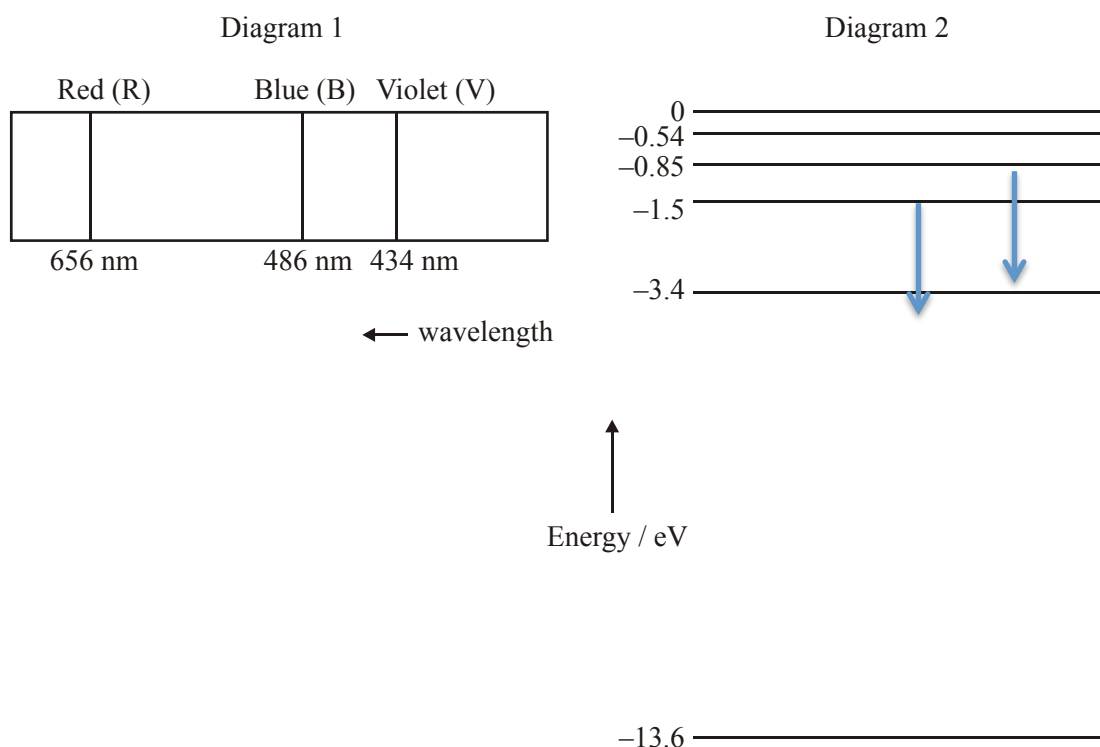**Trang Pham**

Midterm Correction

1. This question is about atomic spectra and energy levels.

    Diagram 1 below shows part of the emission line spectrum of atomic hydrogen. The wavelengths of the principal lines in the visible region of the spectrum are shown.

    Diagram 2 shows some of the principal energy levels of atomic hydrogen.

Diagram 1 / Diagram 2

    (a) Name the spectral series shown in diagram 1.

         Balmer series

         ....   (1)

    (b) Show, by calculation, that the energy of a photon of red light of wavelength 656 nm is 1.9 eV.

         $E = (1.24 \times 10^{-6}) / (654 \times 10^{-7}) = 1.9eV$

         ....

         ....   (3)

    (b) On diagram 2, draw arrows to represent

         (i)   the electron transition that gives rise to the red line (label this arrow R).

                                                                                            (1)

1

(ii)   a possible electron transition that gives rise to the blue line (label this arrow B).

(1)
(Total 6 marks)

2.   This question is about the radioactive decay of potassium-40.

A nucleus of the nuclide $^{40}_{19}$K (potassium-40) decays to a stable nucleus of the nuclide $^{40}_{18}$Ar (argon-40).

(a)   State the names of the **two** particles emitted in this decay.

Positron and antineutrino...

(2)

(b)   A sample of the isotope potassium-40 initially contains 1.5×10^{16} atoms. On average, 16 nuclei in this sample of the isotope undergo radioactive decay every minute.

Deduce that the decay constant for potassium-40 is 1.8×10^{-17} s^{-1}.

$[16 / (1.5 \times 10^{16})] / 60$ sec $= 1.777 \times 10^{-17}$ s^{-1}

....

....

....

....

(3)

(c)   Determine the half-life of potassium-40.

$(\ln 2) / (1.8 \times 10^{-17})$

....

(1)
(Total 6 marks)

2

3. This question is about particle physics.

A neutron can decay into a proton, an electron and an antineutrino according to the reaction

$$n \rightarrow p + e + \bar{v}_e.$$

(a) Deduce the value of the electric charge of the antineutrino.

0

(1)

(b) State whether a proton is a baryon or a lepton.

<u>Proton is baryon</u>

(1)

(b)   State the name of the fundamental interaction (force) that is responsible for this decay.

(1)

Weak force

(c)   State how an antineutrino differs from a neutrino.

Neutrino has number of 1 while antineutrino has number of 0

(1)
(Total 4 marks)

4.   Nuclear binding energy and nuclear decay

(a)   State what is meant by a *nucleon*, giving an example of two nucleons.

A nucleon is one of the particles that make up the atomic nucleus. There are two kinds of nucleon: Proton and neutron.

(2)

(b)   Explain what a nucleon is made of and what force holds it together. Include a description of the exchange particle that mediates the interaction between nucleons.

Nucleons are made of quarks and strong nuclear force holds it together.
Gluons are the exchange particles for the color force between quarks, analogous to the exchange of photons in the electromagnetic force between two charged particles.   **(2)**

(c)   Define what is meant by the *mass defect* of a nucleus.

The sum of individual masses of the separated nucleons minus the mass of the intact nucleons

(1)

(c)   Define what is meant by the *binding energy* of a nucleus.

...............The energy that holds a nucleus together

....

....

....
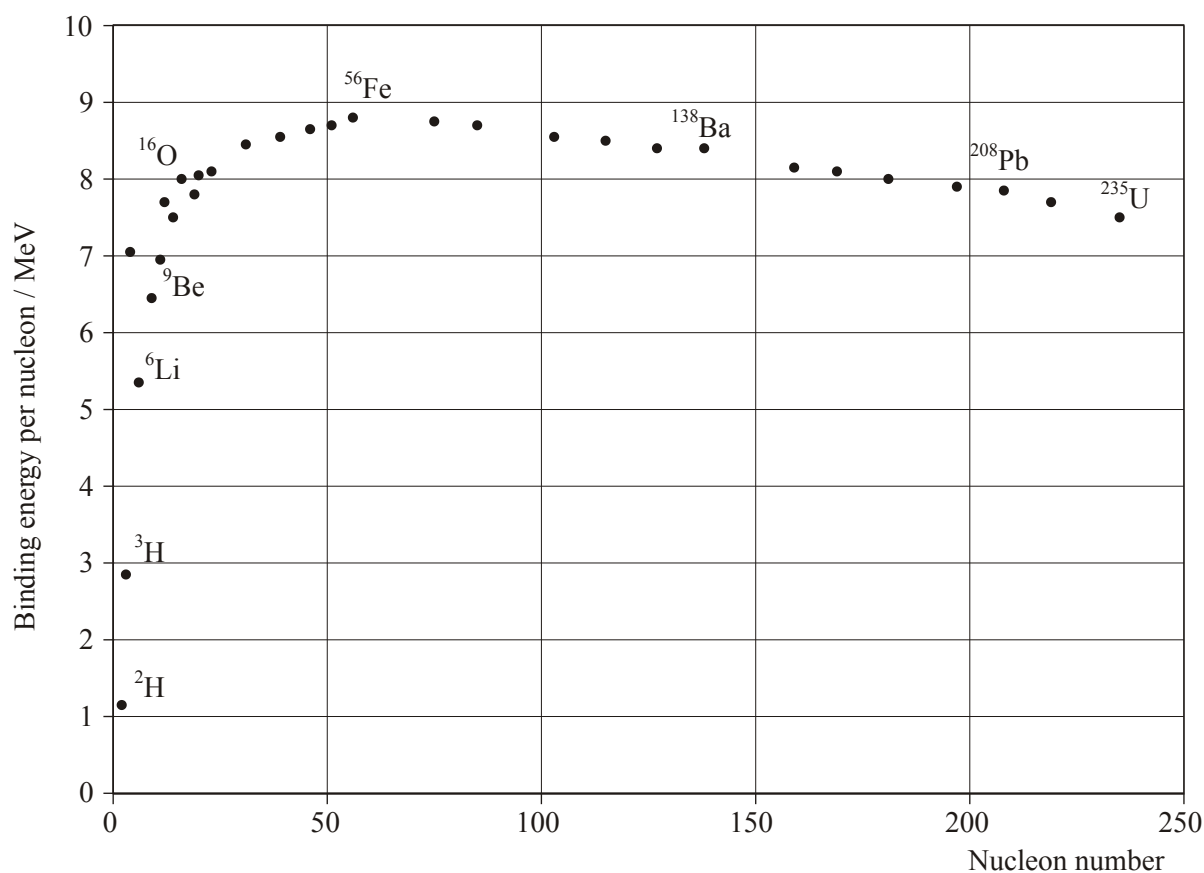
(1)

4

The graph below shows the variation with nucleon (mass) number of the binding energy per nucleon.

(c)   Use the graph to explain why energy can be released in both the fission and the fusion processes.

...........The atoms left to iron fuse together to release energy and atoms right to iron undergo fission to release energy

....

....

....

....

(3)

(c)   Use the graph to explain why there is an abundance of iron (Fe) in the universe.

.............have highest biding energy

....

....

....

....

....

(2)

(d) A sample of carbon-11 has an initial mass of 4.0×10^{-15} kg. Carbon-11 has a half-life of approximately 20 minutes. Calculate the mass of carbon-11 remaining after one hour has elapsed.

...........5.0 x 10^{-16} kg ....

....

....

(2)

(e) Uranium-238, $^{238}_{92}\text{U}$, undergoes α-decay to form an isotope of thorium. Write down the nuclear equation for this decay.

.............$_{92}^{238}\text{U} = {}_{90}^{234}\text{U} + {}_{2}^{4}\text{HE}$ ....

....

....

(2)
(Total 11 marks)

5. This question is about a proton.

The proton is made out of three quarks.

(a) Explain why the three quarks in the proton do not violate the Pauli exclusion principle.

.........Because the two quarks cancel and it has one down quark and two up quarks
....

(2)

(b) Quarks have spin $\frac{1}{2}$. Explain how it is possible for the proton to also have spin $\frac{1}{2}$.

............1/2 - 1/2 + 1/2 spin
....

....

(2)
(Total 4 marks)

6. Which **one** of the following correctly gives the number of electrons, protons and neutrons in a neutral atom of the nuclide $^{65}_{29}\text{Cu}$?

	Number of electrons	Number of protons	Number of neutrons
A.	65	29	36
B.	36	36	29
C.	29	29	65
D.	29	29	36

(1)

7. The unified mass unit is defined as

A. the mass of one neutral atom of $^{12}_{6}\text{C}$.

B. $\dfrac{1}{12}$ of the mass of one neutral atom of $^{12}_{6}\text{C}$.

C. $\dfrac{1}{6}$ of the mass of one neutral atom of $^{12}_{6}\text{C}$.

D. the mass of the nucleus of $^{12}_{6}\text{C}$.

(1)

8. Which of the following provides evidence for the existence of atomic energy levels?

A. The absorption line spectra of gases

B. The existence of isotopes of elements

C. Energy release during fission reactions

D. The scattering of α -particles by a thin metal film

(1)