

Spelling list: GCSE Physics: Radioactivity 2

Key words for GCSE Physics

gamma	A gamma ray is a high energy electromagnetic wave emitted by the nucleus to get rid of excess energy.
ray	A gamma ray is a high energy electromagnetic wave emitted by the nucleus to get rid of excess energy.
penetrate	To penetrate something means to go through it.
radioactive	Radioactive decay is when a nucleus becomes more stable by emitting energy.
decay	Radioactive decay is when a nucleus becomes more stable by emitting energy.
unstable	If something is unstable it is more likely to collapse.
ion	An ion is formed when an atom or a group of atoms gains or loses an electron.
frequency	Frequency refers to how many waves pass a set point per second.
ionising	If a substance is ionising , it means it causes ionisation.
ionisation	The formation of ions is called ionisation .
Geiger-Muller	A Geiger-Muller tube is used to detect ionising radiation.
tube	A Geiger-Muller tube is used to detect ionising radiation.
half-life	The time taken for the count-rate to fall to half its original level is called the half-life .
contamination	Contamination is when unwanted radioactive atoms are present.