

**Topic:** Atomic Structure

**Essential Question:** How do we determine the number of protons, neutrons and electrons in an atom?

Questions:

Notes:

Atoms - building blocks of matter; atoms make up everything

3 parts of the atom (subatomic particles)

Subatomic particle	Symbol	Charge	location	relative mass	Importance
Proton	$p^+$	+1	inside nucleus	1 amu	element identity
neutron	$n^0$	0	inside nucleus	1 amu	holds together nucleus
electron	$e^-$	-1	outside nucleus	0	chemical reactivity

★ element identity = atomic # = #  $p^+$   
 ex) All hydrogen atoms contain 1  $p^+$

Questions:

Notes:

only  $p^+$  and  $n^0$  have mass, thus all of an atom's mass is in the nucleus.

$$\underline{\text{Mass number}} = \# p^+ + \# n^0$$

ex) Hydrogen atom w/ 1  $n^0$

$$\text{mass number} = 1 p^+ + 1 n^0 = 2 \text{ amu}$$

ex) Hydrogen atom w/ 2  $n^0$

$$\text{mass number} = 1 p^+ + 2 n^0 = 3 \text{ amu}$$

Isotopes - atoms of the same element, but different # of  $n^0$ , thus different masses.

Questions:

Notes:

2 ways to indicate an atom's mass number

① Hyphen notation  
element name  $\xrightarrow{\text{hyphen}}$  mass #

ex) Hydrogen - 2

Hydrogen - 3

② Nuclear Symbol

Mass #  
Atomic # Element Symbol

ex)  ${}^2_1\text{H}$        ${}^3_1\text{H}$

Questions:

Notes:

Average Atomic Mass - weighted average

of an element's naturally occurring isotopes  
(it is the mass on the periodic table)

\* must take into account % abundance of isotopes

∴ those isotopes present in higher quantities

count more toward element's average at. mass.

Ex) Hydrogen Isotopes

	${}^1_1\text{H}$	${}^2_1\text{H}$	${}^3_1\text{H}$
Percent Abundance	99.98%	0.0026 - 0.018%	Very rare

X Unweighted average = 2 amu

Weighted average = 1.01 amu = average atomic mass

Questions:

Notes:

Neutral atom - no charge;  $\#p^+ = \#e^-$

Ion - atom w/a charge; occurs when an atom gains or loses  $e^-$

∴  $\#p^+ \neq \#e^-$

Ex) atom gains  $e^-$  -  $\#e^- > \#p^+$   
∴ negative ion (a.k.a. anion)

N w/ 7  $e^-$  vs. N w/ 10  $e^-$   
N has 7  $p^+$  N has 7  $p^+$

Neutral Atom N<sup>3-</sup> nitrogen ion

Questions:

Notes:

Ex) Atom loses  $e^-$ :  $\#e^- < \#p^+$   
 $\therefore$  positive ion (a.k.a. Cation)

Li w/  $3e^-$   
Li has  $3p^+$   
Li neutral atom

vs.

Li w/  $2e^-$   
Li has  $3p^+$   
 $Li^{1+}$  or  $Li^+$  positive ion

