

Subatomic particle calculations

1. Complete the table below. Use a GCSE periodic table to help you, but do **not** use the relative atomic masses there (they are **not** mass numbers). One row has been done for you.

Name	Isotopic symbol	Atomic number	Mass number	Number of:		
				Protons	Neutrons	Electrons
Hydrogen	${}^1_1\text{H}$		1		0	
Lithium	${}^7_3\text{Li}$	3			4	
Oxygen	${}^{18}_8\text{O}$	8	18	8	$(18 - 8) = 10$	8
Aluminium		13		13	14	
	${}^{37}_{17}\text{Cl}$	17				17
Argon					22	
Copper			65		36	
			81			35
	${}^{238}_{92}\text{U}$					

2. (a) Explain why atoms are neutral, even though protons and electrons are charged particles.
 (b) Explain why the number of electrons is not included in mass numbers.

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Oxygen	${}^{18}_8\text{O}$	8	18	8	$(18 - 8) = 10$	8
Aluminium	${}^{27}_{13}\text{Al}$	13	27	13	14	13
Chlorine	${}^{37}_{17}\text{Cl}$	17	37	17	$(37 - 17) = 20$	17
Argon	${}^{40}_{18}\text{Ar}$	18	40	18	22	18
Copper	${}^{65}_{29}\text{Cu}$	29	65	29	36	29
Bromine	${}^{81}_{35}\text{Br}$	35	81	35	$(81 - 35) = 46$	35
Uranium	${}^{238}_{92}\text{U}$	92	238	92	$(238 - 92) = 146$	92

2. (a) The number of positive protons is equal to the number of negative electrons.
 (b) The mass of an electron is negligible / very small compared to the mass of a nucleus.

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