
PHYSICS VCE UNITS 3&4 DIAGNOSTIC TOPIC TESTS 2017

TEST 10: HOW ARE LIGHT AND MATTER SIMILAR? (II)

SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS AND MARKING SCHEME

Question 1 (3 marks)

The emission of light from an atom occurs when electrons fall from higher fixed-energy levels to lower fixed-energy levels releasing the energy difference as photons of light. 1 mark

The electrons initially in their lower fixed-energy states only absorb those photons whose energies are exactly the difference needed to transit to the higher fixed-energy levels. 1 mark

Hence the emission and absorption spectra show those colours of the photons that have the energy difference. 1 mark

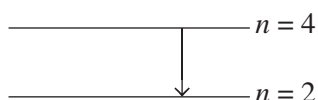
Question 2 (15 marks)

a. $\Delta E = 12.1 - 10.2$
 $= 1.9 \text{ eV}$ 1 mark
 $= 1.9 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$
 $= 3.0 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$ 1 mark

b. $\Delta E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$
 $\lambda = \frac{hc}{\Delta E}$
 $= \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 3.0 \times 10^8}{3.0 \times 10^{-19}}$ 1 mark
 $= 6.63 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$ 1 mark
 $= 6.63 \times 10^{-7} \times 10^9 \text{ nm}$
 $= 663 \text{ nm}$ 1 mark

Consequential on answer to Question 2a.

- c. 2.6 eV is the difference between the $n = 2$ and $n = 4$ energy levels.



2 marks

1 mark for correct energy levels.

1 mark for arrow pointing down.

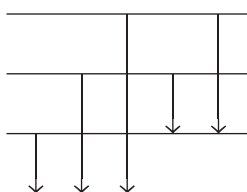
- d. Red has the lowest frequency and therefore highest wavelength in the visible spectrum of light.

1 mark

656 nm

1 mark

- e. The third excited state is $n = 4$.



2 marks

1 mark for correct answer.

1 mark for some form of relevant working.

There are six different energy photons.

- f. 11 eV does not represent a difference between any two energy levels.

1 mark

The photon is reflected (elastically scattered) without loss of energy.

1 mark

- g. Electrons in the ground state require 13.6 eV to transit to the edge of the atom.

1 mark

Thus the absorbency of a 15 eV photon will cause the electron to be ejected with a kinetic energy of 1.4 eV.

1 mark

Question 3 (5 marks)

- a. The electrons bound to the nucleus exist in fixed orbits (quantised states) around the nucleus.

1 mark

These orbits are such that the electron's energy is manifested as a standing wave such that the orbit circumference $2\pi r$ is a whole number of wavelengths, $n\lambda$.

1 mark

Hence the electron shows wave properties since it has a de Broglie wavelength for its energy to be expressed in the form of a standing wave.

1 mark

- b. The existence of specific orbits around the nucleus in which the electrons exist can only be explained by the electrons having a de Broglie wavelength and therefore wave nature.

1 mark

Since electrons have a definite mass and behave as particles according to classical physics, their existence in specific orbits represents evidence for the particle and wave nature of matter.

1 mark

Question 4 (4 marks)

- a. The series of bright and dark bands are explained as an interference of waves to add constructively (produce bright bands) or to add destructively (produce dark bands).

1 mark

This relies on the photon having a wavelength and therefore wave nature.

1 mark

- b. Since a single photon at a time was passing around the very fine needle, even though bright and dark bands were produced, a photon still had to strike somewhere on the screen as a single entity.

1 mark

Thus the photon was behaving as a particle, either landing at a bright band or a dark band.

1 mark

Question 5 (8 marks)

- a. This is because they must be anywhere along the vertical line of the slit as their exact position vertically is unknown. 1 mark
- b. The reduction of the slit width increases the spread of the bright and dark bands on the screen – a diffraction effect. 1 mark
- c. The uncertainty in the position of the electron on the screen is reduced. 1 mark
- d. For the pattern to spread vertically, the vertical momentum of the electron must have increased. 1 mark
- e. As the slit width is reduced, the vertical velocity and momentum uncertainties must increase by proportion. 1 mark
This is evident from the greater spread of the pattern requiring an increase in velocity. 1 mark
- f. The decrease in uncertainty in the vertical position of the electron accompanies the increase in uncertainty in the vertical momentum 1 mark
as per the Heisenberg uncertainty principle $\Delta p \Delta x$ is a minimum value. 1 mark

Question 6 (2 marks)

- Classical physics ideas apply reliably when object masses are much larger than subatomic or atomic masses 1 mark
and when they travel much less than the speed of light. 1 mark

Question 7 (8 marks)

- a. Electrons are stimulated to rise to a higher energy level. 1 mark
As they return to their original level, they release the energy difference as light of a single colour. 1 mark
- b. Electrons that are accelerated through a circular arc by magnetic fields as in a synchrotron release radiation while they are moving in a circular arc. 1 mark
1 mark
- c. When an LED is provided with a voltage, electrons are able to jump the band-gap width and release energy in the form of light where the band gap energy determines the energy and colour of the light emitted. 1 mark
1 mark
- d. An incandescent globe requires electrical energy to operate it. 1 mark
The electrical energy causes the atoms of the filament to gain kinetic energy and some of the energy is absorbed by the atom's electrons. 1 mark
The electrons rise to a higher energy level and as they return to their original energy level, release the energy difference as light. 1 mark