Radioactivity and particles

Pearson Edexcel · International GCSE · Physics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
activity /æk'tɪvɪti/	The **activity** is the number of decays each second.
half-life /hɑːf laɪf/	After one **half-life**, half the nuclei have decayed.
fission /'fɪʃn/	In **fission**, a large nucleus splits in two.
fusion /'fjuːʒn/	Stars make energy by **fusion** of hydrogen.
moderator /'mɒdəreɪtə/	Water acts as a **moderator**: it slows the neutrons down.
control rod /kən'trəʊl rɒd/	A **control rod** absorbs neutrons to slow the reaction.

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