The nuclear atom

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Chemistry · HL · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
nucleus /ˈnjuːklɪəs/	The **nucleus** is at the centre of an atom.
proton /ˈprəʊtɒn/	A **proton** has a positive charge.
neutron /ˈnjuːtrɒn/	A **neutron** has no charge.
electron /ɪˈlektrɒn/	An **electron** has a negative charge.
nucleon /ˈnjuːklɪən/	A proton or a neutron is a **nucleon**.
atomic number /əˈtɒmɪk ˈnʌmbə/	Carbon has an **atomic number** of 6. 6
mass number /mæs ˈnʌmbə/	Carbon-12 has a **mass number** of 12. Carbon-12 12
nuclear symbol	A **nuclear symbol** shows the mass number and the atomic number.
ion /ˈaɪɒn/	An **ion** is an atom that has gained or lost electrons.
isotope /ˈaɪsətəʊp/	Carbon-14 is an **isotope** of carbon. Carbon-14
abundance /əˈbʌndəns/	Chlorine-35 has an **abundance** of 75%. Chlorine-35 75%
mass spectrometer /mæs spekˈtrɒmɪtə/	A **mass spectrometer** measures the mass of atoms.

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