

Flashcards: Vocabulary Review

Directions: Be sure you know the following terms and definitions.

Terms	Definitions
proton	part of the atom in the nucleus that has positive electrical charge
neutron	part of the atom in the nucleus that has neutral electrical charge
electron	part of the atom that has negative electrical charge and that is located outside of the nucleus
mass number	number of protons plus neutrons in the nucleus of an atom
atomic number	number of protons plus neutrons in the nucleus of an atom
dendrochronology	use of tree rings and their annual growth patterns to assign numerical dates to materials and events
varves	thin layers of sediment deposited over the time of one year
exponential	type of decay characterized by a rate proportionate to the amount of the material being decayed
radiometric dating	use of radioactive isotopes and their decay rates to assign absolute dates
half-life	the amount of time that one-half of a radioactive isotope decays to its daughter isotope