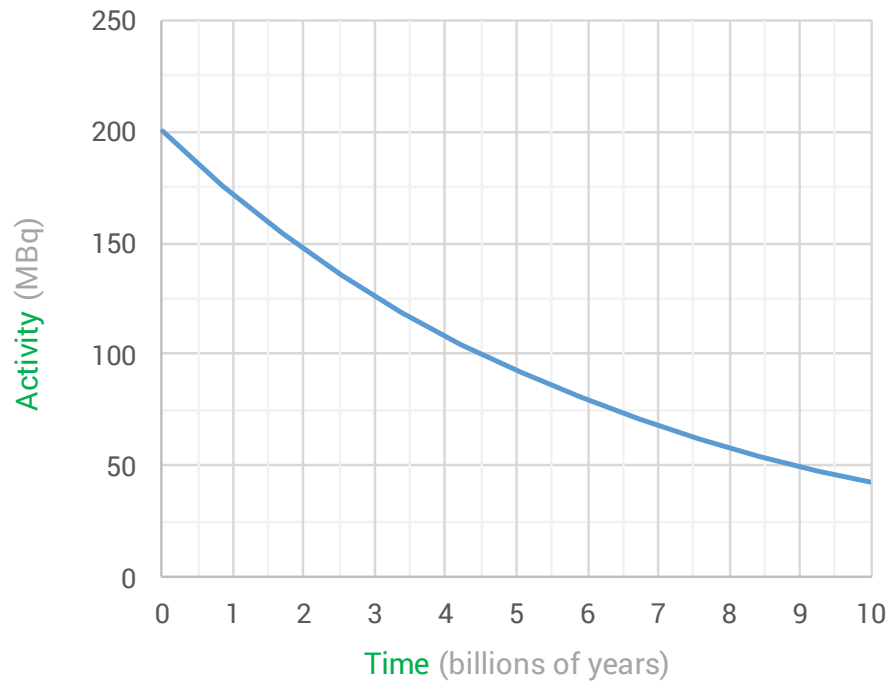


0	1
---	---

The below graph shows how the activity of a sample of uranium-238 changes with time.



0	1	.	1
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The initial activity of this sample is 200 MBq (1 MBq =  $10^6$  Bq).  
What is meant by the activity of a source?

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[2 marks]

0	1	.	2
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Uranium-238 has an exceptionally long half-life.  
Explain what is meant by the half-life of a substance.

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[2 marks]

0	1	.	3
---	---	---	---

Using information from the graph, determine the half-life of uranium-238.

Half-life = \_\_\_\_\_ billion years

[2 marks]

0	2
---	---

Technetium-99m is an important isotope in medical imaging.  
The half-life of technetium-99m is 6 hours.

0	2	.	1
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A fresh sample of technetium-99m is prepared in a hospital.  
What fraction of this sample will have **decayed** after 18 hours?

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

[3 marks]

0	2	.	2
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A different sample of technetium of mass 128 mg is prepared on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at midday.

How much of this technetium will be remaining on March 5<sup>th</sup> at the same time?

Mass remaining = \_\_\_\_\_ mg

[3 marks]

0	3
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To estimate the age of rocks, scientists sometimes compare the amount of potassium-40 to the amount of argon-40 they contain.

They assume that, when the rock was just formed, it contained no argon (argon is a gas which could escape from molten rock).

Potassium-40 has a half-life of  $1.3 \times 10^9$  years, and it decays to form argon-40, which is stable.

0	3	.	1
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The ratio of potassium-40 to argon-40 in a particular rock is 1:1.  
Estimate the age of the rock.

Age = \_\_\_\_\_ years

[2 marks]

0	3	.	2
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In a different rock, the ratio of potassium-40 to argon-40 is 1:7.  
Show that it is approximately 3.9 billion ( $3.9 \times 10^9$ ) years old.

[3 marks]