

The early periodic table

1. One definition of an element is:

“A substance that cannot be broken down into simpler substances by chemical methods”

The table below shows some of the ‘substances’ which Antoine Lavoisier thought were elements. He divided the ‘substances’ into four groups. He published these groups in 1789.

The modern names of some of the ‘substances’ are given in brackets.

ACID-MAKING ELEMENTS	GAS-LIKE ELEMENTS	METALLIC ELEMENTS		EARTHY ELEMENTS
sulphur	light	cobalt	mercury	lime (calcium oxide)
phosphorus	caloric (heat)	copper	nickel	magnesia (magnesium oxide)
charcoal (carbon)	oxygen	gold	platina (platinum)	barytes (barium sulphate)
	azote (nitrogen)	iron	silver	argilla (aluminium oxide)
	hydrogen	lead	tin	silex (silicon dioxide)
		manganese	tungsten	
		zinc		

Dmitri Mendeleev devised a Periodic Table of the elements in 1869. A modern version of this table is shown on the Data Sheet.

Give **two** ways in which Mendeleev’s table is more useful than Lavoisier’s.

- 1
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- 2
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(Total 2 marks)

2. The table shown below was devised by John Newlands in 1864. He arranged the elements in order of their relative atomic masses. He found a repeating pattern, with elements having similar properties in the vertical columns (Groups). He called this pattern the ‘Law of Octaves’, because elements with similar properties seemed to be repeated every eighth element.

H	Li	Be	B	C	N	O
F	Na	Mg	Al	Si	P	S
Cl	K	Ca	Cr	Ti	Mn	Fe
Co/Ni	Cu	Zn	Y	In	As	Se
Br	Rb	Sr	Ce/La	Zr	Di/Mo	Ro/Ru
Pd	Ag	Cd	U	Sn	Sb	Te
I	Cs	Ba/V	Ta	W	Nb	Au
Pt/Ir	Tl	Pb	Th	Hg	Bi	Os

- (a) Many scientists were critical of Newlands' Law of Octaves. Suggest why other scientists were critical of the Law of Octaves. You should give examples from the table and use your knowledge of the chemistry of the elements.

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(3)

- (b) The diagram below shows a version of Mendeleev's Periodic Table of 1871. Mendeleev placed most of the elements in order of relative atomic mass.

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7	Group 8
Period 1	H							
Period 2	Li	Be	B	C	N	O	F	
Period 3	Na	Mg	Al	Si	P	S	Cl	
Period 4	K Cu	Ca Zn	? ?	Ti ?	V As	Cr Se	Mn Br	Fe Co Ni
Period 5	Rb Ag	Sr Cd	Y In	Zr Sn	Nb Sb	Mo Te	? I	Ru Rh Pd

This table became accepted by other scientists.

Give **two** ways in which Mendeleev's table improved on Newlands' table.

1

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2

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(2)

(Total 5 marks)

Unit C3, C3.1.1

3. Mendeleev constructed a periodic table in 1869.

In his periodic table:

- most of the elements were put in order of increasing relative atomic mass;
- elements with similar properties were put into groups;
- Mendeleev changed the order of some elements to put them with similar elements;
- spaces were left for elements that Mendeleev thought would be discovered in the future.

One space was in Group 3 between the elements aluminium and indium.

Group 3
Boron
Aluminium
?
Indium
Thallium

Mendeleev called this undiscovered element 'eka-aluminium'. This element is now known as gallium. In 1871, he also predicted some of the properties of gallium.

The table shows the properties of aluminium and indium, along with some of the predictions made by Mendeleev for gallium.

	Appearance	Metal or non-metal	Boiling point in °C	Density in g per cm ³	Relative atomic mass
Aluminium	silvery white	metal	2467	2.7	27
Predicted properties of gallium	silvery white	metal	?	?	68
Indium	silvery white	metal	2080	7.31	115

(i) Suggest **two** reasons why other scientists in 1871 did not accept Mendeleev's periodic table.

Reason 1

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Reason 2

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(2)

- (ii) Suggest why the discovery of gallium in 1875 convinced other scientists that Mendeleev's table was correct.

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(1)
(Total 3 marks)