Chemguide - questions

ELECTRONIC STRUCTURES OF ATOMS

You will need a copy of the Periodic Table for these questions.

- 1. Write down the electronic structures of the following atoms, showing all the orbitals separately. For example, calcium would be given as $1s^2 2s^2 2p_x^2 2p_y^2 2p_z^2 3s^2 3p_x^2 3p_y^2 3p_z^2 4s^2$.
 - a) boron
 b) chlorine
 c) nitrogen
 d) helium
 e) silicon
 f) potassium
 g) sodium
 h) aluminium
 i) sulphur
 j) oxygen
- 2. Write down the electronic structures of the following d block elements. To save time, you can use the notation [Ar] to represent the electronic structure of argon, so that iron would be [Ar] $3d^6 4s^2$.
 - a) titanium b) cobalt
 - c) chromium
 - d) nickel
 - e) copper
- 3. Write down the outer electronic structures of the following atoms. In each case, you need only show the electrons in the s and p (if relevant) orbitals in the outermost energy level. For example, xenon would be $5s^2 5p_x^2 5p_y^2 5p_z^2$.
 - a) caesium (atomic number: 55)
 - b) tin (atomic number: 50)
 - c) astatine (atomic number: 85)
 - d) tellurium (atomic number: 52)
 - e) radium (atomic number: 88)

f) barium (atomic number: 56) – but in this case give the full electronic structure. You can condense inner p or d electrons as p^6 or d^{10} .

4. Which atoms have the following electronic structures?

a) $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6 3d^{10} 4s^2 4p^6 4d^{10} 5s^2 5p_x{}^1 5p_y{}^1 5p_z{}^1$ b) $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6 3d^{10} 4s^2 4p_x{}^2 4p_y{}^1 4p_z{}^1$