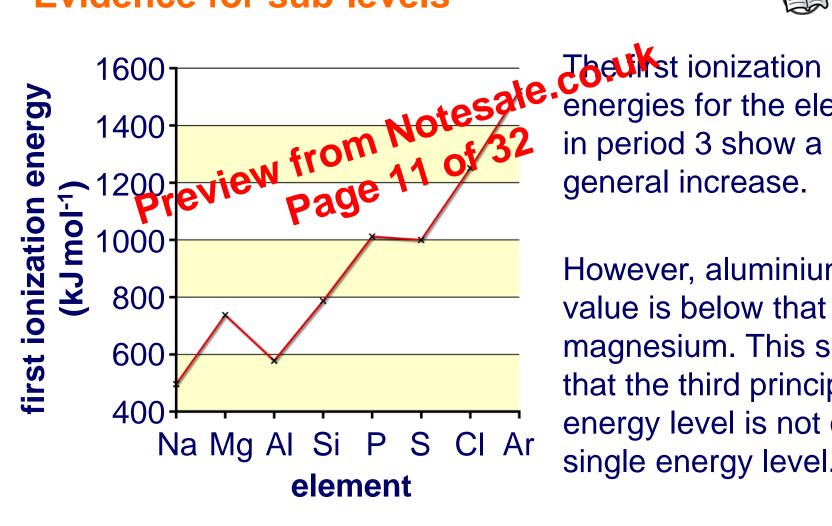
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Unit 1

Evidence for sub-levels





energies for the elements general increase.

However, aluminium's value is below that of magnesium. This suggests that the third principal energy level is not one single energy level.

All principal energy levels contain one or more sub-levels, with different but exact energy values.



Electron configuration of transition metals

Although the 3d sub-level is in a lower principal energy leves at than the 4s sub-level, it is a satually higher in energy.

This means that the 4s sub-level is filled before the 3d sub-level.

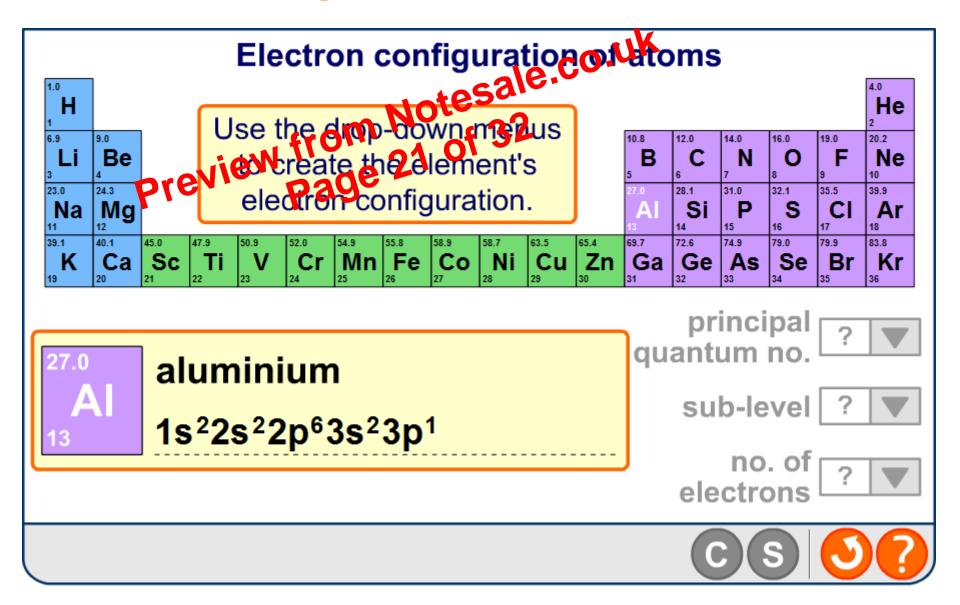


Example: what is the electron structure of vanadium?

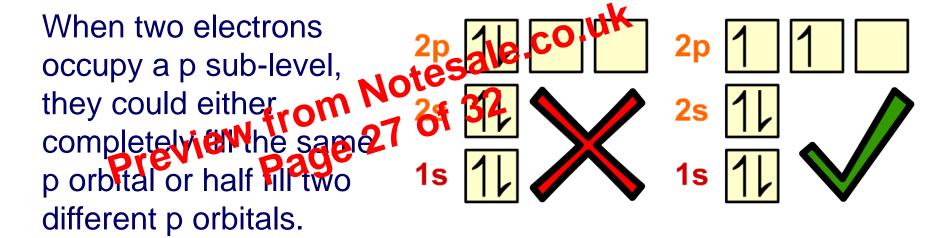
- 1. Count number of electrons in atom 23
- **2.** Fill sub-levels, remembering 4s is filled before 3d

1s²2s²2p⁶3s²3p⁶4s²3d³

Electronic configuration: atoms



Rules for filling electrons



Hund's rule states that single electrons occupy all empty orbitals within a sub-level before they start to form pairs in orbitals.

If two electrons enter the same orbital there is repulsion between them due to their negative charges. The most stable configuration is with single electrons in different orbitals.