

# Quantum Numbers – 1 (Solutions)

Atomic structure-14

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Not your marks, not your past—you decide your future with your effort and vision. *Use solutions only after attempting yourself!*

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## Explanation:

- Principal  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  (shell, size, energy)    #orbitals in shell =  $n^2$ ,    max  $e^- = 2n^2$ .
  - Azimuthal  $l = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$  (subshell/shape):  $s(0), p(1), d(2), f(3), g(4), h(5) \dots$ ; orbitals in subshell =  $2l + 1$ ; max  $e^- = 4l + 2$ .
  - Magnetic  $m = -l, \dots, 0, \dots, +l$  (orientation). Each  $m$  is one orbital (max 2  $e^-$ ).
  - Spin  $s = \pm\frac{1}{2}$  (spin up/down). Pauli: no two  $e^-$  have all 4 QNs same.
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Q1. For  $n = 3, l = 2, m = +2$  how many orbitals are possible? (A)1 (B)2 (C)3 (D)4

**Approach:** Fixing  $n, l, m$  picks a single orbital.

**Steps:** Only  $s$  (spin) can still vary, but that does not create a new orbital.

**Answer:** (A) 1.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** How many orbitals for  $n = 4, l = 3, m = -1$ ? **Answer:** 1.

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Q2. Number of orbitals when  $n = 3$ ? (A)1 (B)3 (C)4 (D)9

**Approach:** Shell- $n$  has  $n^2$  orbitals.

**Steps:**  $3^2 = 9$ .

**Answer:** (D) 9.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $n = 5$ , orbitals =? **Answer:** 25.

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Q3. Non-permissible subshell: (A)2d (B)4f (C)6p (D)3s

**Approach:**  $l \leq n - 1$ . For  $n = 2$ , allowed  $l = 0, 1$  only.

**Answer:** (A) 2d (since  $l = 2$  not allowed for  $n = 2$ ).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Which is not allowed: 3f or 7g? **Answer:** 3f (since  $l = 3$  needs  $n \geq 4$ ); 7g allowed ( $l = 4 \leq 6$ ).

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Q4. Number of orbitals in  $h$  subshell? (A)11 (B)15 (C)17 (D)19

**Approach:**  $h$  means  $l = 5$ ; orbitals =  $2l + 1$ .

**Steps:**  $2(5) + 1 = 11$ .

**Answer:** (A) 11.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $g$  ( $l = 4$ ), orbitals =? **Answer:** 9.

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Q5. Correct for a 4d electron:

(A)  $n = 4, l = 2, s = +\frac{1}{2}$     (B)  $n = 4, l = 2, s = 0$     (C)  $n = 4, l = 3, s = 0$     (D)  $n = 4, l = 3, s = +\frac{1}{2}$

**Approach:** 4d  $\Rightarrow n = 4, l = 2$ ; spin must be  $\pm\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Answer:** (A).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** A 5f electron has  $(n, l) = (?, ?)$  **Answer:** (5, 3).

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Q6. For  $n = 3$ , allowed  $l$  values? (A)0 (B)1 (C)2 (D)All

**Approach:**  $l = 0, 1, 2$  for  $n = 3$ .

**Answer:** (D) All of them.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $n = 1$ ,  $l = ?$  **Answer:** 0 only.

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Q7. For  $n = 5$ ,  $m = 2$ , which statement is NOT correct?

(A)  $l = 4$  (B)  $l = 0, 1, 2, 3$ ;  $s = +\frac{1}{2}$  (C)  $l = 3$  (D)  $l = 4, 3, 2$

**Approach:** For a given  $m$ ,  $|m| \leq l$  so  $l \geq 2$ .

**Steps:** (B) includes  $l = 0, 1$  which can't have  $m = 2$ .

**Answer:** (B).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** With  $m = 0$ , which  $l$  are allowed? **Answer:** Any  $l \geq 0$ .

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Q8. Max electrons in a  $p$  orbital with  $n = 6$ ,  $m = 0$ ? (A)14 (B)6 (C)2 (D)10

**Approach:** One orbital  $\Rightarrow$  max 2 electrons (opposite spins).

**Answer:** (C) 2.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Max electrons in the  $p$  subshell? **Answer:** 6.

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Q9. Total  $m$  values available in  $n = 4$  shell? (A)4 (B)8 (C)16 (D)32

**Approach:** Sum over subshells:  $l = 0, 1, 2, 3$ ; orbitals =  $1 + 3 + 5 + 7 = 16$ .

**Answer:** (C) 16.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $n = 2$ , total  $m$  values? **Answer:**  $1 + 3 = 4$ .

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Q10. How many electrons can have  $n = 3$ ,  $l = 2$ ,  $m = +2$ ,  $s = +\frac{1}{2}$ ?

**Approach:** That's a fully specified state  $\rightarrow$  at most 1 electron.

**Answer:** (D) 1.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** How many with  $n = 3$ ,  $l = 2$ ,  $m = +2$  (any spin)?

**Answer:** 2.

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Q11.  $\psi_{420}$  corresponds to: (A)4d (B)3d (C)4p (D)4s

**Approach:**  $\psi_{nlm}$ :  $n = 4$ ,  $l = 2$ ,  $m = 0 \Rightarrow$  4d.

**Answer:** (A).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):**  $\psi_{310}$  is? **Answer:**  $3p$  ( $l = 1$ ,  $m = 0$ ).

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Q12. Electron in 4d: which value is NOT possible? (A) $n = 4$  (B) $l = 1$  (C) $m = 1$  (D) $m = 2$

**Approach:** For d,  $l = 2$ ; so  $l = 1$  impossible.

**Answer:** (B).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Possible  $m$  for  $l = 2$ ? **Answer:**  $-2, -1, 0, +1, +2$ .

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Q13. Atom with K2, L8, M11, N2: number of  $s$  electrons?

**Approach:** Each shell has an  $s$  subshell (max 2). Given all four shells have  $s^2$ .

**Steps:**  $1s^2, 2s^2, 3s^2, 4s^2 \Rightarrow$  8 electrons.

**Answer:** (B) 8.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** In Ne ( $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6$ ),  $s$  electrons =? **Answer:** 4.

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Q14. If  $l = 3$ , type & number of orbitals?

**Approach:**  $l = 3 \Rightarrow f$ ; orbitals =  $2l + 1 = 7$ .

**Answer:** (C)  $5f, 7$  (any  $nf$  has 7 orbitals).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $l = 2$ ? **Answer:**  $d$ , 5 orbitals.

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Q15.  $3p_y$  orbital:  $(n, l, m)$ ?

**Approach:**  $n = 3, l = 1$ ;  $p_y$  is a combo of  $m = \pm 1$  (conventionally  $p_z$  is  $m = 0$ ).

**Answer:** (C) Both (A) and (B).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):**  $3p_z$  has  $m = ?$  **Answer:** 0.

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Q16. Electrons a shell can hold is ...

**Approach:** Sum over  $l = 0..n - 1$  of  $2(2l + 1) = 2n^2$ .

**Answer:** (C)  $\sum_{l=0}^{n-1} 2(2l + 1)$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $n = 4$ , max  $e^-$ ? **Answer:** 32.

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Q17. Max electrons in a subshell?

**Approach:**  $4l + 2$ .

**Answer:** (B)  $4l + 2$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $l = 3$  ( $f$ ), max  $e^-$ ? **Answer:** 14.

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Q18. Which arrangement is NOT permissible?

(A)  $3, 2, -2, -\frac{1}{2}$  (B)  $4, 0, 0, -\frac{1}{2}$  (C)  $5, 3, 0, +\frac{1}{2}$  (D)  $3, 2$

**Approach:** (D) lacks  $m, s$  — not a full set. Others are valid.

**Answer:** (D).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Is  $(n = 2, l = 2, ...)$  ever valid? **Answer:** No ( $l \leq n - 1$ ).

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Q19. Number of atomic orbitals in  $n = 4$ ?

**Approach:**  $n^2 = 16$ .

**Answer:** (B) 16.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** In  $n = 1$ ? **Answer:** 1.

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Q20. Max  $e^-$  in subshell with  $n = 4, l = 3$ ?

**Approach:**  $l = 3 \Rightarrow f$ , max = 14.

**Answer:** (C) 14.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Max  $e^-$  in  $d$ ? **Answer:** 10.

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Q21. Max  $e^-$  for  $n = 3, l = 1, m = -1$ ?

**Approach:** One orbital  $\Rightarrow$  2 electrons.

**Answer:** (A) 2.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For fixed  $(n, l, m)$  how many  $e^-$ ? **Answer:** 2.

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Q22. Number of orbitals with  $n = 3, l = 1, m = 0$ ?

**Answer:** (A) 1.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** With  $n = 3, l = 1$  (any  $m$ ), how many orbitals? **Answer:** 3.

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Q23. If  $n = 3, l = 2$ , max  $e^-$ ?

**Approach:**  $3d$  subshell: 10.

**Answer:** (D) 10.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** If  $n = 3, l = 0$ ? **Answer:** 2.

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Q24. For given  $l$ , total  $m$  values is ...

**Answer:** (C)  $2l + 1$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $l = 4$ ? **Answer:** 9.

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Q25. Possible  $m$  for a  $p$  orbital?

**Answer:** (B)  $-1, 0, +1$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $d$ ? **Answer:**  $-2, -1, 0, +1, +2$ .

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Q26. Notation for  $n = 5, l = 3$ ?

**Answer:** (C)  $5f$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):**  $n = 6, l = 2$ ? **Answer:**  $6d$ .

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Q27. Shape decided by ...

**Answer:** (C) Azimuthal  $l$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Size/energy mainly by? **Answer:**  $n$ .

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Q28. Orientation decided by ...

**Answer:** (A) Magnetic  $m$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Spin is given by? **Answer:**  $s = \pm\frac{1}{2}$ .

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Q29. QNs for  $4s^1$  electron

**Answer:** (C)  $4, 0, 0, +\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $3p^1$  (first  $p$  electron), one valid set? **Answer:**  $(3, 1, 0, +\frac{1}{2})$ .

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Q30. Subshell with  $l = 1$  is ...

**Answer:** (B)  $p$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):**  $l = 0$  is? **Answer:**  $s$ .

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Q31. For  $n = 3$ , permitted  $(l, m)$ ?

**Answer:** (A) Correct set.

**Why this works:**  $l = 0, 1, 2$ ;  $m = -l \dots +l$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $n = 2$ ? **Answer:**  $l = 0$  ( $m = 0$ ) and  $l = 1$  ( $m = -1, 0, +1$ ).

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Q32. A  $d$  orbital can accommodate up to ...

**Answer:** (C) 2 electrons (one orbital).

**Why this works:** A  $d$  subshell holds 10, but a single orbital holds 2.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** An  $f$  orbital holds? **Answer:** 2.

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Q33. Total electrons in any shell ( $n$ ): expression?

**Answer:** (C)  $\sum_{l=0}^{n-1} 2(2l + 1) = 2n^2$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $n = 3$ , value? **Answer:** 18.

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Q34. Magnetic  $m$  relates to ...

**Answer:** (B) Orientation.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Azimuthal  $l$  relates to? **Answer:** Shape.

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Q35. Max  $e^-$  in a subshell is ...

**Answer:** (B)  $4l + 2$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $p$  ( $l = 1$ ), max? **Answer:** 6.

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Q36. In 3rd shell, total orbitals = ...

**Answer:** (B)  $n^2 = 9$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** In 2nd shell? **Answer:** 4.

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Q37. Possible orientations of a subshell = ...

**Answer:** (C)  $2l + 1$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $f$ ? **Answer:** 7.

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Q38. Correct set for last electron of Fe ( $Z = 26$ )

**Approach:** Fe:  $[\text{Ar}] 3d^6 4s^2$ ; last  $e^-$  in  $3d$ .

**Answer:** (B)  $n = 3, l = 2, m = \pm 2, s = +\frac{1}{2}$  (one valid option).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Last  $e^-$  of Ca ( $Z = 20$ )? **Answer:**  $4s$ .

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Q39. Max  $e^-$  for  $n = 4, l = 3$

**Answer:** (C) 14.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Max  $e^-$  for  $l = 2$ ? **Answer:** 10.

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Q40. Total subshells in 4th shell

**Answer:** (A) 4 ( $s, p, d, f$ ).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** In 6th shell? **Answer:** 6.

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Q41. Highest energy ( $n+l$  rule):

(A) 3, 2 (5) (B) 4, 2 (6) (C) 4, 1 (5) (D) 5, 0 (5)

**Approach:** Larger ( $n + l$ ) higher; tie-breaker: larger  $n$  higher.

**Answer:** (B) has ( $n + l$ ) = 6 (highest).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Which is lower:  $4p$  or  $3d$ ? **Answer:**  $3d$  (tie 5, lower  $n$ ).

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Q42. For  $n = 5$ , number of orbitals with  $l = 3$

**Answer:** (A)  $2l + 1 = 7$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** With  $l = 2$ ? **Answer:** 5.

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Q43. Which set is NOT permissible?

**Answer:** (B)  $(3, 3, 1, -\frac{1}{2})$  since  $l \leq n - 1$  so  $l = 3$  not allowed for  $n = 3$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Is  $(2, 2, 0, +\frac{1}{2})$  valid? **Answer:** No.

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Q44. Which set(s) are not possible?

**Approach:** Check basics:  $l \leq n - 1$ ;  $|m| \leq l$ ;  $s = \pm\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Steps:** (ii)  $2, 2, 1, +\frac{1}{2}$ ; (iv)  $1, 0, -1, -\frac{1}{2}$ ; (v)  $3, 2, 3, +\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Answer:** (B) (ii), (iv) and (v).

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Is  $(4, 3, -2, +\frac{1}{2})$  valid? **Answer:** Yes.

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Q45. Any  $f$  orbital can hold up to ...

**Answer:** (C) 2 electrons with opposite spins.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** An  $f$  subshell holds? **Answer:** 14.

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Q46. Order by increasing energy: (A)4, 1 (B)4, 0 (C)3, 2 (D)3, 1

**Approach:** Use  $(n + l)$  then  $n$ .

**Steps:**  $D(4) < B(4) < C(5) < A(5)$  but tie broken by  $n$ :  $D < B < C < A$ .

**Answer:** (C)  $D < B < C < A$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Which is higher:  $5s$  or  $4d$ ? **Answer:**  $4d$  (both 4; tie by  $n$ ).

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Q47. Total atomic orbitals in 4th level

**Answer:** (C) 16.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** In 5th level? **Answer:** 25.

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Q48. For  $n = 3, l = 2, m = +2$  how many orbitals?

**Answer:** (A) 1.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $n = 3, l = 2$  (any  $m$ )? **Answer:** 5.

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Q49. Which set has  $m = 0$  for all orbitals listed?

**Answer:** (B)  $3s, 2p_z, 3d_{z^2}$  each has  $m = 0$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Does  $p_x$  have  $m = 0$ ? **Answer:** No (it's a combo of  $m = \pm 1$ ).

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Q50. In any subshell, max electrons with same spin = ...

**Approach:** One per orbital with that spin; #orbitals =  $2l + 1$ .

**Answer:** (C)  $2l + 1$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** For  $d$  ( $l = 2$ )? **Answer:** 5 with spin  $+\frac{1}{2}$ .

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Q51. In  $N$  shell: electrons, orbitals, types (in order)

**Answer:** (C) 32, 16, 4.

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** In  $M$  shell? **Answer:** 18, 9, 3.

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Q52. Correct set for an electron in  $4f$

**Answer:** (C)  $n = 4, l = 3, m = 1, s = +\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Similar Practice (NEET/JEE-style):** Give another valid set. **Answer:**  $(4, 3, -3, -\frac{1}{2})$ .

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