## Spelling list: GCSE Physics: Radioactivity 2

Key words for GCSE Physics

ray

ion

	A <b>gamma</b> ray is a high energy electromagnetic wave emitted	by the nucleus
gamma		

to get rid of excess energy.

A gamma **ray** is a high energy electromagnetic wave emitted by the nucleus

to get rid of excess energy.

penetrate To **penetrate** something means to go through it.

Radioactive decay is when a nucleus becomes more stable by emitting radioactive

energy.

Radioactive **decay** is when a nucleus becomes more stable by emitting decay

energy.

unstable If something is **unstable** it is more likely to collapse.

An **ion** is formed when an atom or a group of atoms gains or loses and

electron.

frequency Frequency refers to how many waves pass a set point per second.

ionising If a substance is **ionising**, it means it causes ionisation.

ionisation The formation of ions is called **ionisation** .

Geiger-Muller A **Geiger-Muller** tube is used to detect ionising radiation.

tube A Geiger-Muller **tube** is used to detect ionising radiation.

The time taken for the count-rate to fall to half its original level is called the half-life

half-life .