• Name the element described by the following configuration.

Marks 1

[Kr]  $5s^2 4d^{10}$ 

Cadmium

• Write out the valence electron configuration of the following anions and in each case explain why the anion is less stable than the separated atom and electron.

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 $Ne^{-}$ 

$$1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^1$$

Ne has a noble gas configuration. The extra electron needs to go into the 3s orbital which is in the next shell: it is high in energy as the electron is far from the nucleus.

 $N^{\!-}$ 

$$1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$$

N has all 3 electrons in different *p* orbitals with parallel spins. Adding an extra electrons forces one of these electrons to become paired which is a higher energy situation.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS FOR ROUGH WORKING ONLY.