Marks

3

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• Balance the following nuclear reactions by identifying the missing nuclide.

 $^{55}_{26}\mathrm{Fe} + ^{0}_{-1}\mathrm{e} \rightarrow$ $^{55}_{25}\mathrm{Mn}$

 $^{63}_{28}$ Ni \rightarrow $^{63}_{29}$ Cu + $^{0}_{-1}$ $\boldsymbol{\beta}$

 $^{28}_{14}\mathrm{Si} + ^{2}_{1}\mathrm{H} \rightarrow ^{1}_{0}\mathrm{n} +$ $^{29}_{15}\mathrm{P}$

• Identify the decay mechanism for the following three unstable nuclides given that the only stable isotopes of Pr and Eu are $^{141}_{59}$ Pr, $^{151}_{63}$ Eu and $^{153}_{63}$ Eu. There are no stable isotopes of Rn.

| Isotope | Nuclear Decay Mechanism |
|---------------------------------|---|
| $^{142}_{59}{ m Pr}$ | Stable nucleus has fewer neutrons: β decay |
| ¹⁵⁰ ₆₃ Eu | Stable nucleus has more neutrons: β ⁺ decay or e ⁻ capture |
| ²²² ₈₆ Rn | α decay |