

Name _____

Noble Gases: The Mysterious and Chemically Unreactive Elements

Short Answer Key

1. Noble gases have complete electron configurations, which means they have a full set of electrons in their outermost energy level, making them highly stable and chemically unreactive.
2. Helium differs from other noble gases in that it has only two electrons in its outermost energy level. It can form stable bonds with other elements under extreme conditions of high pressure and low temperature.
3. Neon is commonly used in neon signs and lighting because it emits a bright and colorful glow when electricity passes through it. Its inertness ensures that it does not react with other elements present in the sign tubes, providing a long-lasting and vibrant display.

