

Worksheet 8.1

The alkali metals

1 Complete these sentences using the words below to fill the gaps.

electricity shiny soft alkali low reactive

The metals of Group I in the Periodic Table are called the metals. They are a family of very metals. They tarnish rapidly in air, but are when freshly cut. They conduct heat and well but are, have low densities and melting and boiling points.

2 Lithium (Li), sodium (Na) and potassium (K) are the first three alkali metals, in order down Group I.

a Lithium burns in air to produce a solid oxide. Write the word and balanced symbol equations for this reaction (include state symbols in your chemical equation).

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b The alkali metals get more reactive down the group. Complete the table using the phrases given below the table.

Metal	Reaction with water
lithium	
sodium	
potassium	

- ◆ melts, skates around on surface and gas catches fire
- ◆ floats and fizzes steadily
- ◆ melts and skates around on surface

c Give the word and chemical equations (including state symbols) for the reaction of potassium and water.

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