

How are elements named?

Task

Below are alphabetically listed the names of 20 elements from the Periodic Table. In the other column is a list of derivations of these names, but these **derivations are all mixed up**.

Name of element	Derivation of name
1. Barium	a. Named after the originator of the periodic table
2. Californium	b. Named after a country whose capital is Warsaw
3. Chromium	c. Named after the planet between Saturn and Neptune
4. Einsteinium	d. Named after the Titans in Greek mythology
5. Europium	e. Named from its Latin name of 'natrium'
6. Francium	f. Named after an American state
7. Germanium	g. Named from the Greek word 'barys', meaning heavy
8. Gold	h. Name after a very famous 20th century scientist
9. Helium	i. Named from its Latin name of 'stannum'
10. Iron	j. Named after a continent
11. Lead	k. Named from its Latin name of 'ferrum'
12. Mercury	l. Named from the Greek word 'chroma', meaning colour
13. Mendelevium	m. Named after a planet in our solar system closest to the Sun.
14. Nobelium	n. First discovered in 1886 in Freiberg, Germany
15. Polonium	o. Named from its Latin name of 'plumbum'
16. Potassium	p. Named after a scientist who set up a trust which gives out prizes
17. Sodium	q. Named from its Latin name of 'kalium'
18. Tin	r. Named from the Greek word 'helios', meaning the Sun
19. Titanium	s. Named after a country whose capital is Paris
20. Uranium	t. Named from its Latin name of 'aurum'

Complete the answer grids below by matching the number (element) with its correct letter (derivation).

[illegible][illegible]

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Answers

Element	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Derivation	g	f	l	h	j	s	n	t	r	k

Element	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Derivation	o	m	a	p	b	q	e	i	d	c

Follow on task

Give students a coded message on the board to decode using their answer table. E.g.

Two of the most recent discoveries are:

8-17-7-7-17-6-6-18-7-17

13-7-19

11-1-13-7-17-6-6-11-7

(Tenessine and Oganesson)