

Name: _____
Blk: _____ Date: _____

Science 9 Notes on Elements

Chemical Symbols

Because elements have different names in different languages, chemists use **international symbols** for them. Chemical symbols consist of **one, two or three** letters. The first of which is always **Capitalized** while the second and or third is always **lower case**. Ancient names are used as the source of many of the symbols. Example: Mercury - **Hg - Hydragyrum** (*Latin for liquid silver*)

Look at pg 44 Table 2.1 Thirty-five Common Elements
By the end of this unit you will know all of these

Some Common Elements

Hydrogen (H)- a non-metal (**gas**)

Colourless, odourless, tasteless, and highly flammable
Makes up over **90 percent** of the atoms in the universe
Lighter than air

Iron (Fe) – a metal

Is mixed with carbon to make **steel**
Good structural material, but can **rust** when mixed with water or oxygen

Oxygen (O) – a non-metal (**gas**)

Necessary for our existence (required for the process of **respiration**)
Produced by plants in a process known as **photosynthesis**

Other Common Elements

Sodium (Na) - soft metal that reacts with water

Chlorine (Cl) - yellow-green gas that is highly toxic

Mercury (Hg) - liquid at room temperature metal.

Silver (Ag) - precious metal mined in British Columbia

Silicon (Si) - brittle, grey, semiconductor that is second most common element in Earth's crust.