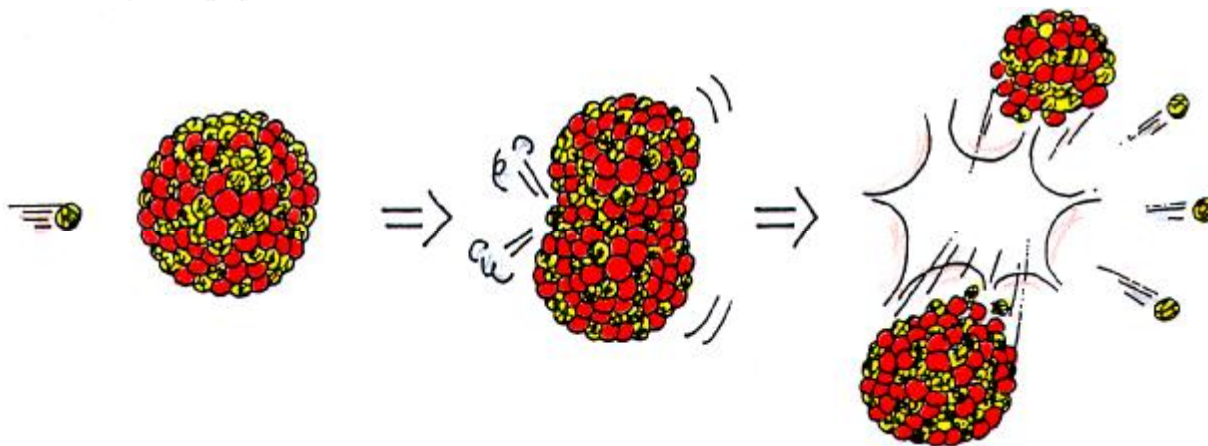


NEXT-TIME QUESTION

When a U-235 nucleus absorbs a neutron and undergoes nuclear fission, about 200 MeV of energy is released. But in what form? Interestingly, most of this energy initially appears in the form of



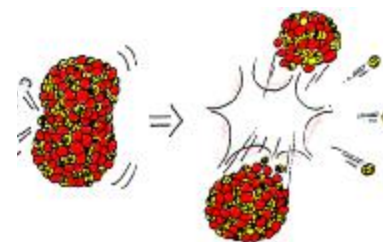
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- b) kinetic energy of emitted neutrons.
- c) kinetic energy of the fission fragments.
- d) heat.
- e) each of these, about equally.



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Answer: c, kinetic energy of the fission fragments
Some energy is emitted in the form of gamma rays and some goes into the kinetic energy of emitted neutrons, but most of the energy of nuclear fission is in the kinetic energy of the fission fragments. The positively-charged fragments repel each other and fly apart at high speed. Soon their energy is shared among many atoms as internal energy. It then spreads as heat.

In what form is energy released in nuclear fusion?



Hewitt
Draw it!

