

Vocabulary

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Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.

biochemistry the study of chemicals directly related to life processes

catalyst a material or substance that increases the efficiency of a reaction without being consumed within the reaction

covalent bond a bond between atoms that is made when atoms share their outermost electrons

DNA..... a complex molecule that controls many functions of living organisms

electron configuration the number and location of electrons; it determines how substances react and how much energy is involved in these reactions

electron dot structure a model that represents the electron configuration of atoms; it can be used to make predictions about the bonds between atoms

ionic bond a bond between atoms that is formed when atoms gain or lose electrons; by gaining or losing electrons, the atoms become ions

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organic..... in chemistry, a chemical compound used by living organisms; it contains carbon

pressure..... the amount of force acting on a substance
Example: When divers reach the bottom of a pool, the water exerts force against them. This force is often felt as a push against the ears and other body parts.

valence electrons the electrons in an atom's outermost shell that are involved in the forming of bonds

valence shell..... the outermost shell from the nucleus of an atom that electrons travel as they orbit an atom