AP® CHEMISTRY
2008 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 5

Using principles of atomic and molecular structure and the information in the table below, answer the following questions about atomic fluorine, oxygen, and xenon, as well as some of their compounds.

Atom	First Ionization Energy (kJ mol^{-1})
F	1,681.0
O	1,313.9
Xe	?

(a) Write the equation for the ionization of atomic fluorine that requires 1,681.0 kJ mol^{-1}.

$F(g) \rightarrow F^+(g) + e^-$	One point is earned for the correct equation. (Phase designations are not required.)

(b) Account for the fact that the first ionization energy of atomic fluorine is greater than that of atomic oxygen. (You must discuss both atoms in your response.)

In both cases the electron removed is from the same energy level ($2p$), but fluorine has a greater effective nuclear charge due to one more proton in its nucleus (the electrons are held more tightly and thus take more energy to remove).	One point is earned for recognizing that the effective nuclear charge of F is greater than that of O.

(c) Predict whether the first ionization energy of atomic xenon is greater than, less than, or equal to the first ionization energy of atomic fluorine. Justify your prediction.

The first ionization energy of Xe should be less than the first ionization energy of F. To ionize the F atom, an electron is removed from a $2p$ orbital. To ionize the Xe atom, an electron must be removed from a $5p$ orbital. The $5p$ is a higher energy level and is farther from the nucleus than $2p$, hence it takes less energy to remove an electron from Xe.	One point is earned for a prediction based on size and/or energy level.