

Exercise 12.2

Colour

1. The $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{4-}$ complex is very stable and nontoxic.
 - (a) What is the oxidation state of iron in this complex?
 - (b) Write the electron configuration for a neutral iron atom. *Use the noble gas abbreviation.*
 - (c) Write the electron configuration for an iron atom with the oxidation state in the above complex. *Use the noble gas abbreviation.*
 - (d) Draw two energy level diagrams showing the splitting of the d orbitals in this complex, including the correct number of electrons. Draw both possibilities for the distribution of electrons and name them.
 - (e) Which of the two electron occupancy diagrams drawn in part (d) do you anticipate is correct? Justify your answer.
 - (f) Would you expect $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{4-}$ to be coloured or colourless? Justify your answer.