

with acids, and generally have high melting points (many above 800°C).

2. **Metalloids** touch both sides of the zigzag line. Metalloids, also known as semi-metals, are elements that show properties of both metals and nonmetals. Metalloids are not good conductors of electricity; however, when mixed with small amounts of other elements, the conductivity of metalloids increases. Because the properties of metalloids are somewhere in between those of metals and non-metals scientists sometimes debate over their categorization. For example, some scientists place aluminum in the metalloid group, while others classify aluminum as a non-metal.
3. **Nonmetals** are found to the right of the zigzag line on the periodic table. There are fewer nonmetals than metals. Nonmetals are usually **dull in appearance** and **do not reflect light**. Many are **brittle**, and therefore cannot be hammered into sheets. Nonmetals are **poor conductors of electricity and heat**, show **little or no reaction with acids**, and generally have **low melting points**. At room temperature, nonmetals can exist as either solids or gases, with the exception of bromine, which is a liquid.

### PRE-LAB QUESTIONS

1. According to the information provided in the "BACKGROUND", what are the physical properties of a metal?
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2. How are the terms malleable and ductile related?
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