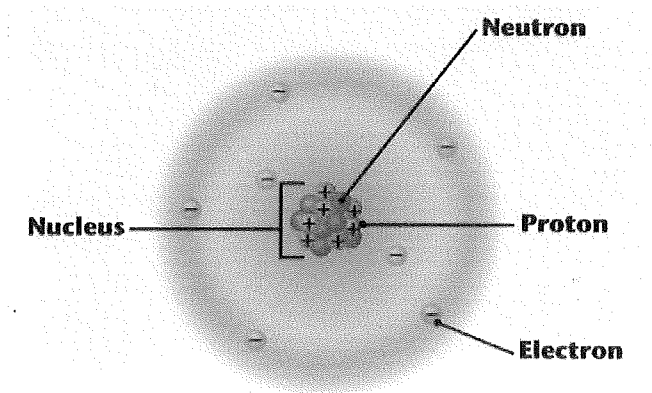


**Physics 12**  
**Section 16-2**  
**Electric Charge in the Atom**



1. We now know that the atom is responsible for the static electric charges.
2. When an atom loses an electron it becomes a positive ion and when an atom gains an electron it becomes a negative ion.
3. When you rub certain objects you have input enough energy to transfer electrons. A plastic ruler becomes negative when you rub it with paper towel.
4. In liquids and gases charged molecules can move as well as electrons. In some solids some electrons tend to move freely (free electrons).
5. Static charge can "leak" off onto charged molecules or polar molecules. Water is a polar molecule. The result is that the once charged object is now neutral or has less charge imbalance.