

Contents

1	The Constant Confusion: An Introduction	1
2	Zircon: A Common Mineral	5
2.1	From the History of the Zircon	5
2.2	Properties of Zircon	6
2.3	Occurrence of Zircon	7
	Further Reading	8
3	Zircon: A Genuine Gemstone	9
	Further Reading	11
4	In the Service of Geology	13
4.1	The Atomic Clock	13
4.2	Geochronometry with the Aid of Zircon	14
4.3	The Oldest Zircons	15
	Further Reading	16
5	Zircon Sand: An Important Raw Material	17
5.1	Occurrence of Zircon Sand	17
5.2	Application of Zircon Sand	18
	Further Reading	20
6	Zirconium: A Hardly Known Metal	21
6.1	Discovery and Naming	21
6.2	Extraction of Zirconium	23
6.3	Properties of Zirconium	24
	Further Reading	27
7	Hafnium: Twin Brother of Zirconium	29
	Further Reading	31
8	Zirconium Materials and Their Application	33
8.1	Zirconium as the Main Alloying Element	33
8.2	Zirconium in Other Materials	36
	Further Reading	37

9	Zirconium and the Fuel Element	39
9.1	Fuel Element and Fuel Rod	39
9.2	Problems with Fuel Elements	40
	Further Reading	41
10	Zirconium Oxide: A Versatile Material	43
11	Natural Zirconium Oxide	45
	Further Reading	46
12	Artificial Zirconium Oxide	47
12.1	Powder Production	47
12.2	Sintering of Components	48
	Further Reading	51
13	The Crystal World of Zirconium Oxide	53
13.1	Lattice Transformations of Zirconium Oxide	53
13.2	Stabilisation of Certain Crystal Lattices	54
13.3	Transformation Strengthening	56
	Further Reading	56
14	Zirconium Oxide Materials	59
14.1	Classification of Zirconium Oxide Materials	59
14.2	Fully Stabilized Zirconium Oxide CSZ (FSZ)	60
14.3	Partially Stabilized Zirconium Oxide PSZ	62
14.4	Partially Stabilized Polycrystalline Zirconium Oxide TZP	62
14.5	Properties of Zirconium Oxide Materials	64
14.6	Other Zirconium Oxide Materials	65
	Further Reading	65
15	Zirconium Oxide Versus Aluminium Oxide	67
15.1	Comparison of Characteristics	67
15.2	Mixed Ceramics	69
	Further Reading	71
16	Ceramic Like Steel	73
	Further Reading	74
17	Zirconium Oxide in Technology	75
17.1	Application for Cutting Tools	75
17.2	Application for Wear-resistant Components	76
17.3	Application in Corrosive Environment	77
17.4	Application in Case of Thermal Stress	78
17.5	Application for Tools with Optimized Surfaces	80
17.6	Other Areas of Application	81
	Further Reading	82

18	Zirconium Oxide Kitchen Utensils	83
	Further Reading	84
19	Zirconium Oxide and the Lambda Sensor	85
	19.1 Task of the Lambda Sensor	85
	19.2 Oxygen-ion Conductivity of Zirconium Oxide	86
	19.3 Operating Principle of the Lambda Sensor	87
	Further Reading	88
20	Zirconium Oxide in Dentistry	89
	20.1 Requirements for Dental Crowns and Dental Bridges	89
	20.2 Fabrication of Zirconium Oxide Ceramic Dentures	91
	20.3 Implants	92
	Further Reading	93
21	Zirconia: A Synthetic Gemstone	95
	Further Reading	98
22	Two Doubles of the Diamond	99
	Further Reading	101
	Index	103