AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.1.1.5

Size and mass of atoms

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Foundation**
Question groups	**32**
Available paper years	**2008–2025**

Using this booklet

1. Booklet answer numbers match the question booklet.
2. Use the original question number within marking tables.
3. Examiner comments are included where available.

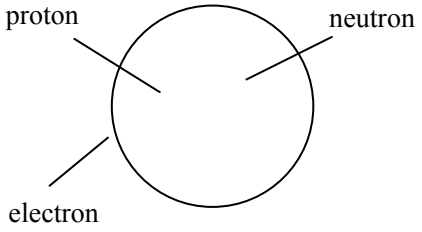
Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Where a precise marking extract is unavailable, the full source document is included in an appendix. Any missing mark scheme is explicitly identified.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

June 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q5 | Legacy

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(a)(i)		all three correct **2** marks one correct **1** mark	2
5(a)(ii)	14		1
5(b)	A		1
5(c)(i)	ammonia can break up to form nitrogen and hydrogen ammonia is made from nitrogen and hydrogen	list principle applies	2
5(c)(ii)	air		1
5(d)	ammonium nitrate		1
Total			**8**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

June 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q5 | Legacy

COMPONENT NUMBER: CHY2F

COMPONENT NAME: Additional Science / Chemistry

STATUS: Final

DATE: June 2008

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

June 2009 | CHY2F | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)	4		1
1(b)	9		1
Total			**2**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

June 2009 | CHY2F | Original Q1 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question 3

question	answers	extra information	mark
3(a)(i)	protons		1
3(a)(ii)	neutrons		1
3(b)	heavier than H-2 atoms are heavier than H-1 atoms **or** the hydrogen atoms are heavier / more particles in the nucleus of the hydrogen atoms / one more particle in each hydrogen atom / a neutron in each hydrogen atom etc **or** molecule A has more particles / neutrons **or** molecule A has a larger nuclear mass / atomic mass A has two more neutrons than B	 can be awarded even if they do not circle heavier than must be linked to heavier than a correct explanation of the increase in mass by ref. to the particles in the hydrogen atoms ignore reference to particles in the oxygen atoms do **not** accept incorrect numbers of particles accept molecule A has more protons and neutrons molecule A has higher mass numbers hydrogen has a greater mass number in A all the numbers in the molecule A add up to 6 and in molecule B add up to 4 molecule A has $^{2}_{1}H$ and B $^{1}_{1}H$	1 1 1
Total			**4**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 03 · Mark scheme January 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q3 | Legacy

CHY2F

Answer 04 · Mark scheme June 2010 | CHY1AP | Original Q9 | Legacy

Nine	**3**	**4**	**3**	**1**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)(i)	nucleus		1
2(a)(ii)	neutron		1
2(a)(iii)	electron		1
2(b)(i)	6		1
2(b)(ii)	12		1
2(c)	14 C 6		1
2(d)(i)	CH_4		1
2(d)(ii)	compound		1
2(d)(iii)	covalent		1
Total			**9**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 05 · Mark scheme June 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q2 | Legacy

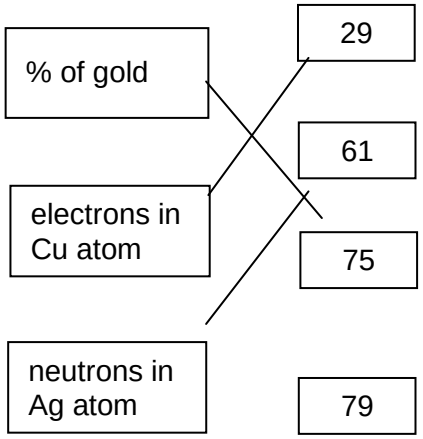
CHY2F

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

January 2012 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)	+1/+ electron	do **not** accept 1 without the + allow phonetic spelling	1 1
1(b)(i)	elements		1
1(b)(ii)	non-metal		1
1(c)	soft an alloy		1 1
1(d)		**one** mark for each correct link extra lines lose the mark	3
Total			9

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

January 2012 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

CH1FP

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)(i)	nucleus		1
1(a)(ii)	protons		1
1(b)	protons / + / positive electrons / – / negative	both words needed in any order for **1** mark	1
1(c)	nitrogen	allow N or N_2	1
1(d)	B **and** C (both) have one electron **or** same number of electrons in the outer energy level / shell	both letters needed in any order for **1** mark allow Li **and** Na allow both are in Group **1** allow both are alkali metals allow both can lose only one electron **or** become +1 ions allow this mark if no letters given in boxes	1 1
Total			**6**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

CH1FP

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH2FP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)	79 79		1 1
2(b)	hundred		1
2(c)(i)	electron(s)		1
2(c)(ii)	three		1
2(d)	changes rate of reaction **or** speeds up / slows down reaction	accept lowers activation energy accept reduces costs	1
2(e)(i)	melt		1
2(e)(ii)	crosslinking **or** (covalent) bonds between polymers / chains	allow answers on diagram allow bonds between layers do **not** allow intermolecular	1
Total			**8**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

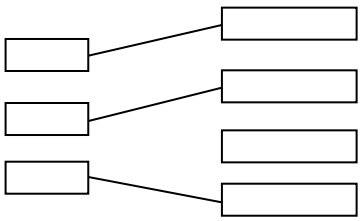
June 2012 | CH2FP | Original Q2 | Legacy

CH2FP

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

January 2013 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)(i)	nucleus		1
1(a)(ii)	an energy level (shell)		1
1(b)			1 1 1
1(c)	2/two(%)		1
1(d)(i)	10/ten		1
1(d)(ii)	(group) 0	accept noble gases ignore (group) 8	1
Total			**8**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

January 2013 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

CH1FP

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)	proton 1 electron very small owtte	ignore ± allow zero allow values from 1/1800 to 1/2000 **or** 0.0005 – 0.00055	1 1
1(b)	8 16		1 1
1(c)(i)	Isotopes		1
1(c)(ii)	$^{18}_{8}\mathbf{O}$		1
1(d)(i)	compound		1
1(d)(ii)	H-O-H		1
1(d)(iii)	covalent		1
1(d)(iv)	sharing		1
Total			**10**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

January 2013

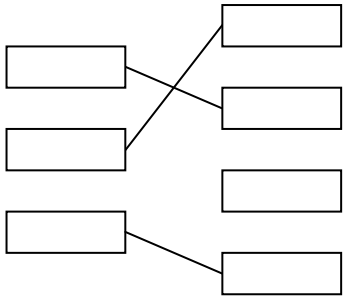
CH2FP

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 11 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	Mark
1(a)		one mark for each substance linked correctly to its description do **not** accept more than one line from each substance	3
1(b)	0 / zero / none / no charge electron		1 1
1(c)(i)	nucleus		1
1(c)(ii)	atomic number		1
1(c)(iii)	mass number		1
Total			8

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

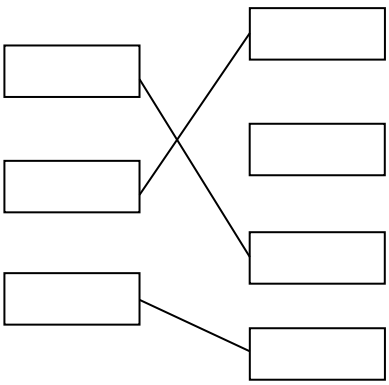
Question 1

question	answers	extra information	Mark
1(a)	1 / one		1
1(b)(i)	protons		1
1(b)(ii)	neutrons		1
1(b)(iii)	7		1
1(c)(i)	losing		1
1(c)(ii)	a positive		1
1(c)(iii)	electrostatic		1
1(d)	high melting points strong bonds		1 1
1(e)(i)	58.5		1
1(e)(ii)	mole		1
1(f)	very small (particles) **or** 1-100nm in size **or** (particle with a) few hundred atoms	ignore tiny / small / smaller / microscopic etc.	1
Total			**12**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
1(a)(i)	a proton		1	1 / 1.1.1d	A
1(a)(ii)	nucleus		1	1 / 1.1.1c	A
1(a)(iii)	12 4	order must be correct	1 1	2 / 1.1.1g	G
1(b)(i)	5 / five (%)		1	1 / 1.4.3a	G
1(b)(ii)	Carbon dioxide>global warming Sulfur dioxide>acid rain Water>no pollution 		1 1 1	1 / 1.4.3a/c	G
Total			8		

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy



4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 14 · Mark scheme June 2014 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
4(a)(i)	14		1	2 / 2.3.1c	G
4(a)(ii)	isotope		1	1 / 2.3.1d	G
4(a)(iii)	(very) small	*accept smaller / tiny / (very) little*	1	1 / 2.3.1b	G
4(b)(i)	C		1	1 / 2.1	A
4(b)(ii)	NH_3		1	1 / 2.1.1g	A
4(c)(i)	nitric (acid)		1	1 / 2.6.2b	G
4(c)(ii)	indicator		1	1 / 2.6.1b	E
4(c)(iii)	crystallisation **or** evaporation	allow by heating **or** cooling **or** leave (on windowsill) *do not accept freezing*	1	1 / 2.6.1c	E
4(c)(iv)	any **one** from: • grass grows faster • grass grows taller **or** thicker	*allow grass grows better / greener*	1	3 / 2.6.2c	E
4(d)	potassium (atom) loses (an electron) chlorine (atom) gains (an electron) 1 (electron) electron	reference to incorrect bonding or particle = max **3** ignore references to full outer shells	1 1 1 1	1 + 2 / 2.1.1c/d/e	E
Total			**13**		

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy



4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

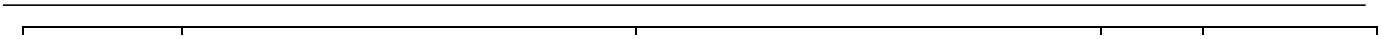
Answer 15 · Mark scheme June 2015 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
1(a)	 1 very small	must be in this order accept negligible, 1/2000 allow zero	 1 1	**AO1** 2.3.1b
1(b)	The mass number		1	**AO1** 2.3.1c
1(c)	C		1	**AO2** 2.3.1a
1(d)(i)	2		1	**AO2** 2.1.1a
1(d)(ii)	3		1	**AO2** 2.1.1a
1(e)(i)	28		1	**AO2** 2.3.1f
1(e)(ii)	42.9	accept ecf from (e)(i) accept 42 - 43	1	**AO2** 2.3.3a
1(f)(i)	0.9		1	**AO2** 2.3
1(f)(ii)	any **one** from: • accurate • sensitive • rapid • small sample		1	**AO1** 2.3.2a
Total			**10**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy



4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | CH1FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
1(a)(i)	7		1	AO2 1.1.1g
1(a)(ii)	-1		1	AO1 1.1.1d
1(a)(iii)	neutrons		1	AO1 1.1.1c
1(b)	number of protons		1	AO1 1.1.1f
1(c)	atom **Y**		1	AO2 1.1.1 h; 1.1.2a
1(d)(i)	Ne	allow neon	1	AO2 1.1.2a/b
1(d)(ii)	has a full outer shell **or** full outer energy level **or** has 8 electrons in its outer shell	allow in Group 0 allow a noble gas allow the shells are full ignore in Group 8	1	AO2 1.1.2b; 1.1.3a
Total			**7**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

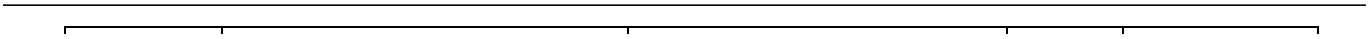
June 2016 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / SpecRef
1(a)(i)	7 / seven		1	AO1 2.1.1e
1(a)(ii)	1 Electron	do **not** accept -1	1 1	AO1 2.3.1b
1(a)(iii)	isotopes		1	AO1 2.3.1d
1(b)(i)	(sodium +) fluorine → sodium fluoride		1	AO2 2.1.1d,e
1(b)(ii)	compounds		1	AO1 2.1.1a
1(b)(iii)	mole		1	AO1 2.3.1g
1(b)(iv)	 sodium (atom) loses fluorine (atom) gains one electron ions formed	**max 3** if reference to incorrect particle / bonding allow sodium forms positive (ion) **or** fluorine forms negative (ion) allow form ionic bond allow to gain a full outer shell of electrons allow forms noble gas structure	 1 1 1 1	AO1 / AO2 2.1.1b,c,d,e,f
1(b)(v)	Dissolve in water High melting point		1 1	AO1 2.2.2a,b
Total			13	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy



Answer 18 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1F | Original Q3

The full source mark scheme begins on page 58. Follow original question 3 in that document.

Answer 19 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

The full source mark scheme begins on page 58. Follow original question 7 in that document.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 20 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	**A** nucleus **B** electron		1 1	AO1 4.1.1.4 4.1.1.7
01.2	electron		1	AO1 4.1.1.5
01.3	3 / three		1	AO2 4.1.2.1
01.4	(atomic number) 5 (mass number) 11		1 1	AO2 4.1.1.5
01.5	isotope		1	AO1 4.1.1.5
01.6	there are the same number of $^{79}_{35}Br$ atoms and $^{81}_{35}Br$ atoms		1	AO2 4.1.1.6
Total			**8**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 21 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1F | Original Q2

Question 2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	electron		1	AO1 4.1.1.3
02.2	plum pudding		1	AO1 4.1.1.3
02.3	alpha		1	AO1 4.1.1.3
02.4	Bohr		1	AO1 4.1.1.3
02.5	protons neutrons protons (and) electrons	 either order	1 1 1	AO1 4.1.1.4 4.1.1.5
02.6	a sports arena of radius 100 m		1	AO2 4.1.1.5
Total			**8**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 22 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	they form ions with different charges		1	AO1 4.1.3.1 4.1.3.2
	they have high melting points		1	
09.2	the (grey) crystals are silver		1	AO3 4.4.1.2
	the copper ions (produced) are blue	allow the copper nitrate / compound (produced) is blue	1	
	(because) copper displaces silver		1	

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Mark	AO/ Spec. Ref
09.3	**Level 2:** The method would lead to the production of a valid outcome. The key steps are identified and logically sequenced.	3–4	AO1 AO3 4.4.1.2 4.5.1.1 RPA 4
	Level 1: The method would not lead to a valid outcome. Some relevant steps are identified, but links are not made clear.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content **Key steps** • add the metals to (dilute) hydrochloric acid • measure temperature change **or** compare rate of bubbling **or** compare colour of resulting solution for copper: • no reaction • shown by no temperature change **or** shown by no bubbles for magnesium and iron: • magnesium increases in temperature more than iron **or** magnesium bubbles faster than iron **or** magnesium forms a colourless solution and iron forms a coloured solution **Control variables** • same concentration / volume of hydrochloric acid • same mass / moles of metal • same particle size of metal • same temperature (of acid if comparing rate of bubbling)		

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 22 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	$\frac{(203 \times 30) + (205 \times 70)}{100}$ **or** $\frac{6090 + 14\,350}{100}$ = 204.4	 ignore units	1 1	AO2 4.1.1.6
Total			**11**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 23 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	(atoms with the) same number of protons	allow atoms with the same atomic number allow atoms of the same element ignore the same number of electrons	1	AO1 4.1.1.4 4.1.1.5
	(but with) different numbers of neutrons	ignore (but with) different mass numbers do **not** accept (but with) different relative atomic mass	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.2	$(A_r =) \frac{(69 \times 60) + (71 \times 40)}{100}$		1	AO2 4.1.1.6
	= 69.8		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	(number of electrons) = 31		1	AO2 4.1.1.4
	(number of neutrons) = 38		1	4.1.1.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	Ga^{3+}		1	AO3 4.2.1.2

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5	(gallium) fitted in a gap (Mendeleev had left)		1	AO2 4.1.2.2
	(gallium's) properties were predicted correctly (by Mendeleev)	allow (gallium's) properties matched the rest of the group	1	

Total			**9**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 24 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	Name: Neutron → Label: B Name: Proton → Label: D do **not** accept more than one line from a box on the left		1 1	AO1 4.1.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.2	(number of electrons) 9 (number of neutrons) 10		1 1	AO2 4.1.1.5

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 24 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3 Mark with question 01.4	(relative atomic mass =) $\frac{(39 \times 93.3) + (41 \times 6.7)}{100}$	allow (relative atomic mass =) $\frac{(3638.7) + (274.7)}{100}$	1	AO2 4.1.1.6
		allow (relative atomic mass =) 36.387 + 2.747		
	= 39.134		1	
	= 39.1	allow an answer correctly rounded to 3 significant figures from an incorrect calculation which uses all the values in **Table 1**	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.4 Mark with question 01.3	potassium / K	allow ecf from question **01.3**	1	AO3 4.1.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.5	neutrons		1	AO1 4.1.1.5

Total Question 1		**9**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 25 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	coarse particle		1	AO1 4.2.4.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.2	(volume =) 2^3	allow (volume =) 2×2×2	1	AO2 4.2.4.1
	= 8 (nm^3)		1	
	(surface area : volume) = 24 : 8	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated volume	1	
	(simplest ratio) = 3 : 1		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.3	high(er) / large(r)		1	AO1 4.2.4.1
	lower / less / smaller		1	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 25 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.4	(advantage) any **one** from: • stops (unpleasant) smells • can stop (foot) infections (disadvantage) any **one** from: • high cost (of socks) • could be harmful if breathed in	 allow specific (foot) infections allow silver can kill bacteria allow silver is (very) expensive	 1 1	AO3 4.2.4.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.5	100 times		1	AO2 4.1.1.5 4.2.4.1

Total Question 7		10

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 26 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	neutron		1	AO1 4.1.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.2	a neutron and a proton		1	AO1 4.1.1.5

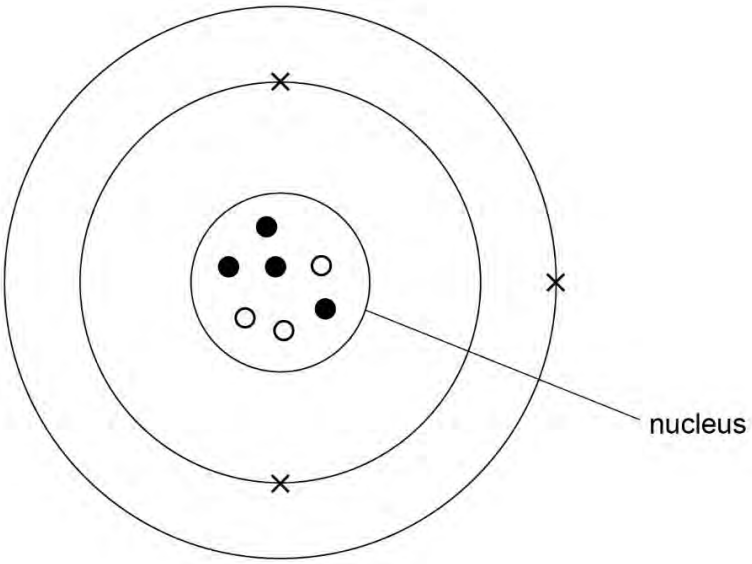
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3	(nitrogen) 2 / two (oxygen) 1 / one		1 1	AO2 4.1.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.4	lithium	allow Li	1	AO2 4.1.1.1

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 26 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.5	3 x protons (○) in the nucleus		1	AO1
	4 x neutrons (●) in the nucleus		1	AO1
	3 x electrons (×) in the shells		1	AO1
	electrons (×) arranged 2, 1		1	AO2
	an answer of  scores **4** marks			4.1.1.4 4.1.1.7
Total Question 1			**9**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 27 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q3

Question 3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.1	element		1	AO1 4.1.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.2	protons neutrons	must be in this order allow electrons	1 1	AO1 4.1.1.5

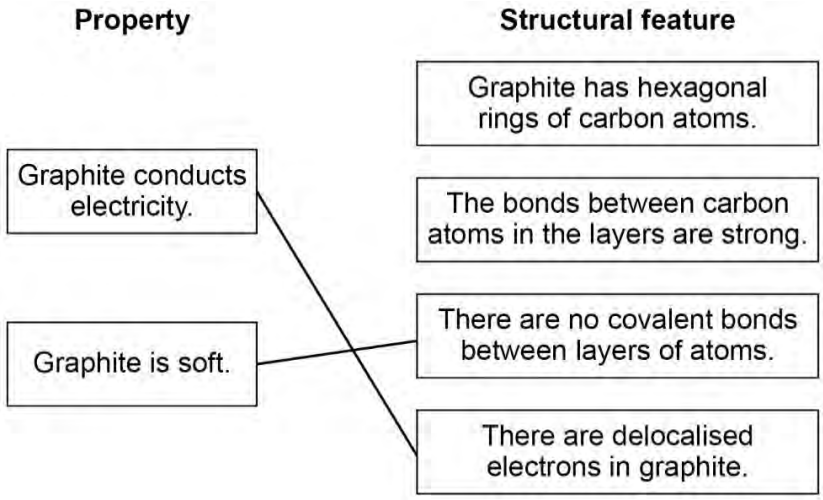
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.3	$\frac{12}{6.02 \times 10^{23}}$		1	AO2 4.1.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.4	B		1	AO1 4.2.3.3

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 27 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q3

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.5	 do **not** accept more than **one** line from a box on the left	1 1	AO1 4.2.3.2

Total Question 3	7

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 28 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	a ball of positive charge with (negative) electrons embedded	do **not** accept references to protons, nuclei, neutrons	1 1	AO1 4.1.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.2	(earliest) electrons protons (latest) neutrons		1	AO1 4.1.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	(number of outer shell electrons) 7 (reason) (tennessine is in) Group 7	 allow the number of outer electrons is the same as the group number allow tennessine is a halogen MP2 is dependent on MP1 being awarded	1 1	AO2 4.1.2.1 4.1.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	(time needed for) peer review	allow the idea that other scientists had to check the results	1	AO3 4.1.2.2

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 28 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5	(A_r =) $\frac{(6 \times 7.6) + (7 \times 92.4)}{100}$	allow $\frac{45.6 + 646.8}{100}$ allow (6 × 0.076) + (7 × 0.924) allow 0.456 + 6.468	1	AO2 4.1.1.6
	= 6.924		1	
	= 6.9	allow an answer correctly rounded to 1 decimal place from an incorrect calculation which uses all the data in the table	1	

Total Question 9	9

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 29 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q5

Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	6		1	AO2 4.1.1.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.2	7		1	AO2 4.1.1.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.3	6		1	AO2 4.1.1.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.4	C_2F_6		1	AO2 4.2.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.5	only intermolecular forces are weak		1	AO1 4.2.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.6	spherical		1	AO1 4.2.3.3

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 29 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.7	3		1	AO1 4.2.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.8	giant structure	allow lattice	1	AO1 4.2.3.1
	(of atoms joined by) covalent bonds		1	
	each carbon / atom forms four bonds		1	

Total Question 5	**10**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 30 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1		allow energy level for shell		AO1 4.1.2.1
	(similarity) both have one outer (shell) electron	allow same number of outer (shell) electrons	1	
	(difference) sodium has 3 shells but potassium has 4 shells	allow potassium has more shells allow (different) number of shells	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.2	any **two** from: • effervescence / bubbles / fizzing • (potassium) floats • (potassium) moves around • (potassium) becomes smaller • (potassium) melts • flame • explosion	ignore gas produced allow (potassium) forms a ball ignore colour of flame	2	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	blue / violet / purple		1	AO2
	(the solution is) alkaline	allow (the solution) contains OH^- (ions) allow (the solution) contains hydroxide ions allow the solution is basic	1	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.4.2.4

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 30 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	all five points correctly plotted	allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square allow **1** mark for three or four points correctly plotted	2	AO2 4.1.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5	3.4 (mg/cm^3)	allow a value in the range 3.0 to 3.8 (mg/cm^3)	1	AO3 4.1.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.6	chlorine and potassium bromide		1	AO2 4.1.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.7	relative molecular mass increases and boiling point increases		1	AO1 4.1.2.6

Total Question 9	**11**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 31 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q10

Question 10

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.1	(model **A**) plum pudding (model **B**) Bohr	allow Thomson (model) allow nuclear (model) allow planetary (model) allow Rutherford-Bohr (model)	1 1	AO1 4.1.1.3

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 31 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q10

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.2	**Level 2:** Scientifically relevant features are identified; the way(s) in which they are similar / different is made clear and (where appropriate) the magnitude of the similarity / difference is noted.	3–4	AO1 4.1.1.3
	Level 1: Relevant features are identified and differences noted.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content **Similarities** • both contain electrons • both are neutral overall **Differences** • model **A** has no nucleus **or** the model used today has a nucleus • model **A** has no protons **or** the model used today has protons • model **A** has no neutrons **or** the model used today has neutrons • model **A** has positive charge spread throughout the atom **or** model **A** is a ball of positive charge • the model used today has the positive charge in the centre • model **A** the electrons are distributed randomly • the model used today has electrons in shells / energy levels • the mass was spread throughout model **A** • the mass is concentrated at the centre of the model used today • model **A** does not have empty space • model used today is mostly empty space		

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 31 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q10

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.3	atoms with the same number of protons	allow atoms of the same element allow atoms with the same atomic number ignore references to electrons	1	AO1 4.1.1.5
	with different numbers of neutrons		1	

Total Question 10	8

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

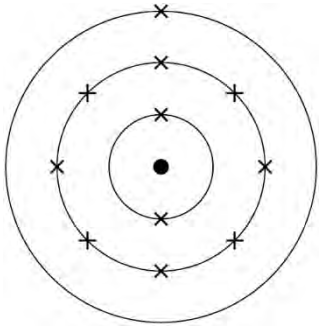
Answer 32 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	towards the right **and** the top	allow a description of the position in the periodic table allow in Groups (3) 4 to 0	1	AO1 4.1.2.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	a melting point below 100 °C		1	AO3 4.1.2.3 4.2.2.7 4.2.2.8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3		allow any combination of ×, ●, o, $e^{(-)}$ for electrons	1	AO1 4.1.1.7

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 32 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	any **one** from: • so elements / tellurium / iodine were in groups with similar properties • iodine has similar properties to Group 7 elements • iodine has different properties to Group 6 elements	ignore reference to atomic structure allow named elements for Group 6 / 7 elements allow converse arguments in terms of tellurium	1	AO1 4.1.2.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5	argon has a full outer shell (of electrons)	allow energy level for shell allow argon has eight outer shell electrons ignore argon has no outer shell electrons	1	AO1 4.1.2.4
	(so argon) has a stable arrangement of electrons **or** (so argon) has a stable electronic structure	allow (so argon) does not gain / lose / share electrons	1	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 32 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.6	atoms with the same number of protons (but with) different numbers of neutrons	allow atoms of the same element allow atoms with the same atomic number ignore atoms with the same number of electrons	1 1	AO1 4.1.1.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.7	~115		1	AO2 4.1.1.6

Total Question 8	**9**

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

AQA

GCSE
CHEMISTRY

8462/1F - PAPER 1 FOUNDATION TIER

Mark scheme

8462

June 2018

Version/Stage: 1.0 Final

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Mark schemes are prepared by the Lead Assessment Writer and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation events which all associates participate in and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation process ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every associate understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for standardisation each associate analyses a number of students' scripts. Alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed and legislated for. If, after the standardisation process, associates encounter unusual answers which have not been raised they are required to refer these to the Lead Assessment Writer.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of students' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

Further copies of this mark scheme are available from aqa.org.uk

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MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Information to Examiners

1. General

The mark scheme for each question shows:

- the marks available for each part of the question
- the total marks available for the question
- the typical answer or answers which are expected
- extra information to help the Examiner make his or her judgement
- the Assessment Objectives and specification content that each question is intended to cover.

The extra information is aligned to the appropriate answer in the left-hand part of the mark scheme and should only be applied to that item in the mark scheme.

At the beginning of a part of a question a reminder may be given, for example: where consequential marking needs to be considered in a calculation; or the answer may be on the diagram or at a different place on the script.

In general the right-hand side of the mark scheme is there to provide those extra details which confuse the main part of the mark scheme yet may be helpful in ensuring that marking is straightforward and consistent.

2. Emboldening and underlining

2.1 In a list of acceptable answers where more than one mark is available 'any **two** from' is used, with the number of marks emboldened. Each of the following bullet points is a potential mark.

2.2 A bold **and** is used to indicate that both parts of the answer are required to award the mark.

2.3 Alternative answers acceptable for a mark are indicated by the use of **or**. Different terms in the mark scheme are shown by a / ; eg allow smooth / free movement.

2.4 Any wording that is underlined is essential for the marking point to be awarded.

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which students have provided extra responses. The general principle to be followed in such a situation is that 'right + wrong = wrong'.

Each error / contradiction negates each correct response. So, if the number of error / contradictions equals or exceeds the number of marks available for the question, no marks can be awarded.

However, responses considered to be neutral (indicated as * in example 1) are not penalised.

Example 1: What is the pH of an acidic solution?

[1 mark]

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	green, 5	0
2	red*, 5	1
3	red*, 8	0

Example 2: Name two planets in the solar system.

[2 marks]

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	Neptune, Mars, Moon	1
2	Neptune, Sun, Mars, Moon	0

3.2 Use of chemical symbols / formulae

If a student writes a chemical symbol / formula instead of a required chemical name, full credit can be given if the symbol / formula is correct and if, in the context of the question, such action is appropriate.

3.3 Marking procedure for calculations

Marks should be awarded for each stage of the calculation completed correctly, as students are instructed to show their working. Full marks can, however, be given for a correct numerical answer, without any working shown.

3.4 Interpretation of 'it'

Answers using the word 'it' should be given credit only if it is clear that the 'it' refers to the correct subject.

3.5 Errors carried forward

Any error in the answers to a structured question should be penalised once only.

Papers should be constructed in such a way that the number of times errors can be carried forward is kept to a minimum. Allowances for errors carried forward are most likely to be restricted to calculation questions and should be shown by the abbreviation ecf in the marking scheme.

3.6 Phonetic spelling

The phonetic spelling of correct scientific terminology should be credited **unless** there is a possible confusion with another technical term.

3.7 Brackets

(…..) are used to indicate information which is not essential for the mark to be awarded but is included to help the examiner identify the sense of the answer required.

3.8 Allow

In the mark scheme additional information, 'allow' is used to indicate creditworthy alternative answers.

3.9 Ignore

Ignore is used when the information given is irrelevant to the question or not enough to gain the marking point. Any further correct amplification could gain the marking point.

3.10 Do not accept

Do **not** accept means that this is a wrong answer which, even if the correct answer is given as well, will still mean that the mark is not awarded.

4. Level of response marking instructions

Extended response questions are marked on level of response mark schemes.

- Level of response mark schemes are broken down into levels, each of which has a descriptor.
- The descriptor for the level shows the average performance for the level.
- There are two marks in each level.

Before you apply the mark scheme to a student's answer, read through the answer and annotate it (as instructed) to show the qualities that are being looked for. You can then apply the mark scheme.

Step 1: Determine a level

Start at the lowest level of the mark scheme and use it as a ladder to see whether the answer meets the descriptor for that level. The descriptor for the level indicates the different qualities that might be seen in the student's answer for that level. If it meets the lowest level then go to the next one and decide if it meets this level, and so on, until you have a match between the level descriptor and the answer.

When assigning a level you should look at the overall quality of the answer. Do **not** look to penalise small and specific parts of the answer where the student has not performed quite as well as the rest. If the answer covers different aspects of different levels of the mark scheme you should use a best fit approach for defining the level.

Use the variability of the response to help decide the mark within the level, ie if the response is predominantly level 2 with a small amount of level 3 material it would be placed in level 2 but be awarded a mark near the top of the level because of the level 3 content.

Step 2: Determine a mark

Once you have assigned a level you need to decide on the mark. The descriptors on how to allocate marks can help with this.

The exemplar materials used during standardisation will help. There will be an answer in the standardising materials which will correspond with each level of the mark scheme. This answer will have been awarded a mark by the Lead Examiner. You can compare the student's answer with the example to determine if it is the same standard, better or worse than the example. You can then use this to allocate a mark for the answer based on the Lead Examiner's mark on the example.

You may well need to read back through the answer as you apply the mark scheme to clarify points and assure yourself that the level and the mark are appropriate.

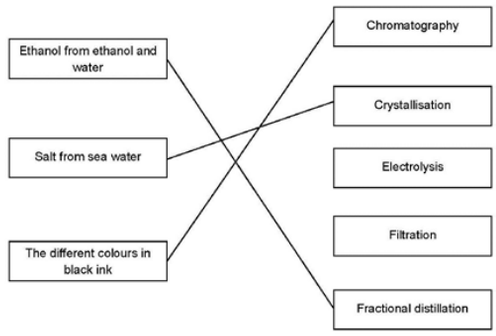
Indicative content in the mark scheme is provided as a guide for examiners. It is not intended to be exhaustive and you must credit other valid points. Students do **not** have to cover all of the points mentioned in the indicative content to reach the highest level of the mark scheme.

You should ignore any irrelevant points made. However, full marks can be awarded only if there are no incorrect statements that contradict a correct response.

An answer which contains nothing of relevance to the question must be awarded no marks.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1			1 1 1	AO1 4.1.1.2
01.2	include a (filter) funnel	allow funnel drawn on the diagram ignore clamp stand	1	AO3 4.1.1.2
01.3	evaporate condense	must be this order	1 1	AO1 4.1.1.2
01.4	$\frac{2}{20} \times 100$ = 10 (%)	an answer of 10 (%) scores **2** marks an answer of 11.1(%) **or** 90 (%) scores **1** mark	1 1	AO2 4.2.2.7
01.5	an alloy		1	AO1 4.2.2.7
01.6	the layers in the mixture are distorted		1	AO1 4.2.2.7

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.7	8000 nm^3		1	AO2 4.2.4.1
Total			**11**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	7		1	AO1 4.1.2.6
02.2	small molecule		1	AO2 4.1.2.6 4.2.2.4
02.3	F_2		1	AO1 4.1.1.1 4.1.2.6
02.4	the reactivity decreases (going down Group 7) (because) chlorine displaces bromine and iodine (and) bromine displaces iodine **or** iodine does not react	allow the reactivity decreases from chlorine to iodine allow (because) chlorine has two reactions allow (because) neither bromine nor iodine can displace chlorine allow (and) bromine has one reaction **or** iodine has no reactions allow (and) iodine cannot displace bromine	1 1 1	AO1 4.1.2.6 AO3 4.1.2.6 AO3 4.1.2.6
02.5	80		1	AO2 4.3.1.2

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.6	(1.2 kg =) 1200 (g) **or** (900 g =) 0.9 (kg)	an answer of 75 (%) scores **2** marks	1	AO2 4.3.3.1
	$(\frac{900}{1200} \times 100) = 75(\%)$ **or** $(\frac{0.9}{1.2} \times 100) = 75(\%)$	allow an answer correctly calculated from: $(\frac{900}{\text{incorrect attempt at conversion of 1.2}} \times 100)$ **or** $(\frac{\text{incorrect attempt at conversion of 900}}{1.2} \times 100)$	1	
Total			**9**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.1	nucleus neutron neutron electron proton	must be in this order	1 1 1 1 1	AO1 4.1.1.3 4.1.1.4 4.1.1.5
03.2	$(A_r)\ \frac{(63 \times 70) + (65 \times 30)}{100}$ = 63.6	an answer of 63.6 scores **2** marks	1 1	AO2 4.1.1.6
03.3	copper / Cu	allow ecf from answer to question **03.2**	1	AO2 4.1.1.1
03.4	$\frac{1.2 \times 10^{-10}}{10\,000}$ **or** $1.2 \times 10^{-10} \times 1 \times 10^{-4}$ $= 1.2 \times 10^{-14}$ (m)	an answer of 1.2×10^{-14} (m) scores **2** marks a correct answer not in standard form scores **1** mark	1 1	AO2 4.1.1.5
Total			**10**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.1	3.6 (cm^3)		1	AO2 4.4.3.4
04.2	hydrogen line only		1	AO3 4.4.3.4
04.3	both lines		1	AO3 4.4.3.4
04.4	graphite has delocalised electrons		1	AO1 4.2.3.2
04.5	**cathode** zinc (1) **anode** chlorine (1) hydrogen (1) bromine (1)	do **not** accept chloride allow **1** mark if chlorine and zinc the wrong way around do **not** accept bromide allow **1** mark if bromine and hydrogen the wrong way around	1+1 1+1	AO2 4.4.3.2 4.4.3.4
Total			**8**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	gas		1	AO1 4.2.2.2
05.2	the gas escapes	allow carbon dioxide escapes do **not** accept references to evaporation	1	AO1 4.3.1.3
05.3	5.12 (g)		1	AO2 4.3.1.3
05.4	4.00 (g) trial 1	allow 2.89 written in either space, or ringed in the table, unless contradicted by mass of copper carbonate or trial number	1	AO3 4.3.1.3
05.5	reheat (and reweigh) until constant mass	 an answer of heat to constant mass scores **2** marks if no other mark scored allow for **1** mark heat for longer **or** (heat at a) higher temperature **alternative approach**: (1) continue heating and pass gas through limewater (1) until the (lime)water stops bubbling **or** until the limewater no longer turns cloudy	1 1	AO3 4.3.1.3

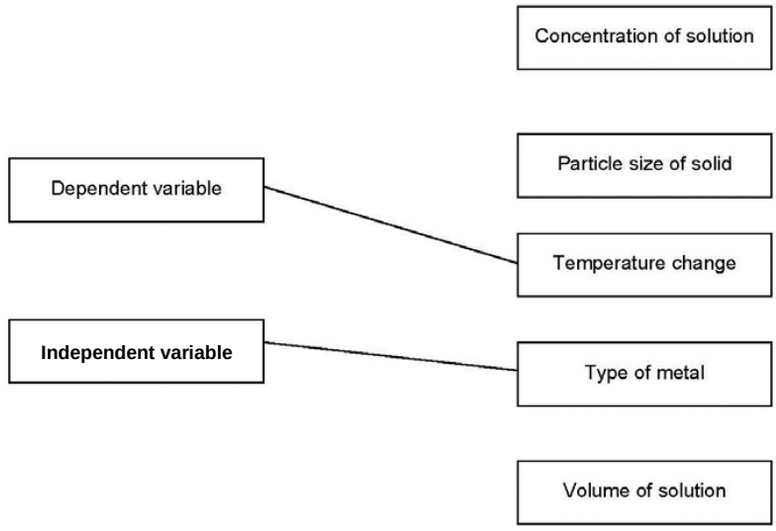
4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.6	straight line of best fit	must touch at least 5 of the 6 plots	1	AO2 4.3.1.3
05.7	correct value read from line of best fit in Figure 8	allow tolerance of ± ½ small square	1	AO2 4.3.1.3
05.8	(mass =) $168 \times \frac{\text{answer from question } \mathbf{05.7}}{8.4}$	a correctly calculated value from their answer to question **05.7** scores **2** marks allow (mass =) answer from question **05.7** × 20	1	AO2 4.3.1.3
	correctly calculated value (g)		1	
Total			**10**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.1	 allow **one** mark if answers are reversed		1 1	AO1 4.5.1.1
06.2	polystyrene is a better insulator		1	AO3 4.5.1.1
06.3	both bars labelled both bars correctly plotted	 allow tolerance of ± ½ small square ignore width and spacing of bars if no other mark scored, allow **1** mark for any one bar correctly plotted and labelled	1 1	AO2 4.5.1.1

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.4	temperature increases **or** temperature does not decrease	ignore because it is exothermic allow (because) energy / 'heat' is transferred to the surroundings energy / 'heat' is not taken in from the surroundings allow the energy of the products is less than the energy of the reactants	1	AO3 4.5.1.1
06.5	(most reactive) magnesium (zinc) nickel	this order only	1	AO3 4.5.1.1 4.4.1.2
06.6	suitable method described the observations / measurements required to place in order an indication of how results would be used to place the unknown metal in the reactivity series **approaches that could be used:** **approach 1:** add the unknown metal to copper sulfate solution (1) measure temperature change (1) place the metals in order of temperature change (1)		1 1 1	AO3 4.4.1.2 4.5.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.6 cont.	**approach 2:** add the metal to salt solutions of the other metals **or** heat the metal with oxides of the other metals (1) measure temperature change (only if salt solutions used) **or** observe whether a chemical change occurs (1) compare temperature change or whether there is a reaction to place in correct order (1) **approach 3:** add all of the metals to an acid (1) measure temperature change or means of comparing rate of reaction (1) place the metals in order of temperature change or rate of reaction (1) **approach 4:** set up electrochemical cells with the unknown metal as one electrode and each of the other metals as the other electrode (1) measure the voltage of the cell (1) place the metals in order of voltage (1)			
06.7	D		1	AO1 4.5.1.2
06.8	C		1	AO1 4.5.1.2
Total			**12**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	sodium oxide	allow Na_2O	1	AO2 4.1.1.1 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.1
07.2	oxidation		1	AO1 4.4.1.1
07.3	13		1	AO1 4.4.2.4
07.4	sodium hydroxide		1	AO2 4.1.1.1
07.5	OH^-		1	AO1 4.4.2.4
07.6	(volume =) $\frac{250}{1000}$ or ¼ or 0.25 (dm^3) **or** (mass per cm^3 =) $\frac{40}{1000}$ (g) or 0.04 (g) ($\frac{250}{1000}$ × 40 =) 10 (g)	an answer of 10 (g) scores **2** marks	1 1	AO2 4.3.2.5

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.7	all points correct	allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square allow **1** mark for 3 points correct ignore any attempt at a line of best fit	2	AO2 4.1.2.5
07.8	39 (°C)	allow any value from 34 to 46 (°C)	1	AO2 4.1.2.5
Total			**10**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	any **one** from: • metal • (metal) hydroxide • (metal) carbonate • alkali	allow named example allow correct formula ignore base allow ammonium hydroxide allow ammonium carbonate allow soluble base allow ammonia	1	AO1 4.4.2.1 4.4.2.2 4.4.2.3
08.2	$Ca(NO_3)_2$	allow $Ca^{2+}(NO_3^-)_2$	1	AO2 4.4.2.2

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3	**Level 3:** The method would lead to the production of a valid outcome. All key steps are identified and logically sequenced.	5–6	AO1 4.4.2.3
	Level 2: The method would not necessarily lead to a valid outcome. Most steps are identified, but the method is not fully logically sequenced.	3–4	
	Level 1: The method would not lead to a valid outcome. Some relevant steps are identified, but links are not made clear.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content • use magnesium oxide and sulfuric acid • add sulfuric acid to a beaker • warm sulfuric acid • add magnesium oxide • stir • continue adding until magnesium oxide is in excess • filter • using a filter paper and funnel • to remove excess magnesium oxide • heat solution in an evaporating basin • to crystallisation point • leave to crystallise • pat dry with filter paper credit may be given for diagrams		
Total		**8**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	FeS_2	do **not** accept equations	1	AO2 4.2.1.3
09.2	26 30 26	must be this order	1 1 1	AO2 4.1.1.4 4.1.1.5
09.3	any **two** from: • iron has a high(er) melting / boiling point • iron is dense(r) • iron is hard(er) • iron is strong(er) • iron is less reactive • iron has ions with different charges • iron forms coloured compounds • iron can be a catalyst	allow the converse statements for sodium allow transition metal for iron allow Group 1 metal for sodium ignore references to atomic structure ignore iron rusts allow iron is less malleable / ductile allow specific reactions showing difference in reactivity allow iron is magnetic	2	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.1.3.1 4.1.3.2

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	carbon is more reactive (than nickel)	allow converse	1	AO1 4.4.1.2 4.4.1.3
	(so) carbon will displace / replace nickel (from nickel oxide) **or** (so) carbon will remove oxygen (from nickel oxide)	allow (so) nickel ions gain electrons allow (so) carbon transfers electrons to nickel (ions)	1	
09.5		an answer of 67.8 (%) scores **3** marks an answer of 67.8160919 (%) or correctly rounded answer to 2, 4 or more sig figs scores **2** marks an incorrect answer for one step does **not** prevent allocation of marks for subsequent steps		AO2 4.3.3.2
	(total M_r of reactants =) 87		1	
	(percentage atom economy) $= \frac{59}{87} \times 100$	allow (percentage atom economy) $= \frac{59}{\text{incorrectly calculated } M_r} \times 100$	1	
	= 67.8 (%)	allow an answer from an incorrect calculation to 3 sig figs	1	
Total			**11**	

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.1	copper, zinc, sodium chloride solution		1	AO2 4.5.2.1
10.2	a reactant is used up	allow the reaction stops allow electrolyte / electrode / ions / metal / metal hydroxide / alkali for reactant	1	AO1 4.5.2.1
10.3	the reaction is not reversible		1	AO1 4.5.2.1
10.4	$2H_2 + O_2 \rightarrow 2H_2O$	allow fractions / multiples allow **1** mark for O_2	2	AO1 AO2 4.1.1.1 4.5.2.2

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

MARK SCHEME – GCSE CHEMISTRY – 8462/1F – JUNE 2018

<table>
<tr><th>Question</th><th>Answers</th><th>Mark</th><th>AO / Spec. Ref.</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="5">10.5</td><td>Level 3: A judgement, strongly linked and logically supported by a sufficient range of correct reasons, is given.</td><td>5–6</td><td>AO3</td></tr>
<tr><td>Level 2: Some logically linked reasons are given. There may also be a simple judgement.</td><td>3–4</td><td>AO3</td></tr>
<tr><td>Level 1: Relevant points are made. This is not logically linked.</td><td>1–2</td><td>AO2</td></tr>
<tr><td>No relevant content</td><td>0</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Indicative content

reasons why fuel cells could be judged as better
<table>
<tr><th>from the table</th><th>from other knowledge</th></tr>
<tr><td>• time for refuelling a fuel cell is faster than recharging
or
a fuel cell does not need to be recharged
• a fuel cell has a greater range</td><td>• hydrogen can be renewable if made by electrolysis using renewable energy
• lithium-ion batteries can catch fire
• produces only water
or
no pollutants produced
• lithium-ion batteries may release toxic chemicals on disposal
• lithium-ion batteries (eventually cannot be recharged so) have a finite life</td></tr>
</table>
reasons why the lithium-ion battery could be judged as better
<table>
<tr><th>from the table</th><th>from other knowledge</th></tr>
<tr><td>• lithium-ion uses energy more efficiently
• cost of lithium-ion car much less
• cost of recharging much less than refuelling with hydrogen</td><td>• hydrogen is often made from fossil fuels so is not renewable
• charging points are more widely available than hydrogen filling stations
• hydrogen takes up a lot of space
or
is difficult to store
• hydrogen can be highly flammable / explosive
• no emissions produced
• (catalyst in the hydrogen fuel-cell eventually becomes poisoned so) have a finite life</td></tr>
</table></td><td></td><td>4.4.3.4
4.5.2.1
4.5.2.2</td></tr>
<tr><td>Total</td><td></td><td></td><td>11</td></tr>
</table>

Answer 18 · Examiner comments June 2018 | 8462/1F | Original Q3

Question 3 (low and standard demand)

03.1 This question was answered very well, with 60% of students achieving four or five marks. 11% of students achieved all five marks, the key difference being that they knew Chadwick proved the existence of the neutron, which is a new area of the specification.

03.2 78% of students were able to substitute in the values and calculate the relative atomic mass correctly. However, some calculator errors were seen which often led to an answer of 45.1 instead of 63.6. A few students, having looked at the periodic table, 'corrected' their answer to 63.5, thereby forfeiting a mark.

03.3 This question was answered well, with 76% of students able to identify the element as copper. Those who had calculated their relative atomic mass incorrectly were able to gain credit, for example, by giving the answer scandium after a value of 45.1.

Some looked at the mass numbers of the isotopes and were able to identify copper in that way. However, those who looked at the isotope of mass number 65 and gave the answer zinc did not gain credit.

03.4 Students found this calculation difficult, with 39% achieving both marks. Many multiplied by 10 000 or divided by 1×10^{-4}. A few introduced the relative atomic mass of copper.

Partial credit was given for a correct answer not expressed in standard form. 12% of students did not attempt the question.

Answer 19 · Examiner comments June 2018 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question 7 (low and standard demand)

07.1 This question was answered well with 80% of students giving the correct name of the product. Some students tried to add in other products such as water or hydrogen.

07.2 85% of students knew this was an oxidation reaction.

07.3 68% of students could relate the colour of the universal indicator to the correct pH. The most common distractor was 'pH 7'.

07.4 73% of students could name sodium hydroxide correctly.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 19 · Examiner comments

June 2018 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

07.5 This question assessed recall directly from the specification. 43% of students could identify the OH^- ion as being present in all alkalis.

More than a 25% thought that the Na^+ ion was responsible, with nearly as many opting for the H^+ ion.

07.6 Students found this calculation very difficult, with 7% achieving full marks. 13% of students made no attempt to answer.

It was necessary to convert either the volume to dm^3 or the concentration to mol/cm^3 to gain partial credit, but most students either failed to attempt a conversion or did not know how many cm^3 are in one dm^3.

07.7 58% of students achieved both marks. It was very common to see the scale on the *x*-axis misread so that the plots for sodium and potassium were incorrect. Some students were using a pen or a very thick pencil so were unable to correct their answer or were compromising accuracy.

07.8 This question was answered very well, with 82% of students answering correctly.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 20 · Examiner comments — June 2019 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question 1 (low demand)

01.1 Approximately 80% of students identified both the nucleus and the electron in the diagram of an atom.

01.2 Approximately 60% of students identified the electron as having the lowest mass.

01.3 Approximately three-quarters of students correctly applied their knowledge and understanding of the link between electronic structure and group number.

01.4 Almost 60% of students scored both marks. Here, they applied their knowledge and understanding of the links between atomic structure and both atomic number and mass number.

01.5 Approximately 70% of students knew the term 'isotope' for the type of atom described.

01.6 Students found this multiple choice question about the link between isotope ratios and relative atomic mass difficult.

The first incorrect option was chosen more often than the correct one. This suggests that, in many cases, students did not understand how the relative atomic mass is determined from the average mass of all isotope atoms and were perhaps drawn towards the word 'fewer' alongside the smaller number '79'.

Answer 24 · Examiner comments — June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question 1 (Low and standard demand)

01.1 The great majority of students scored both marks.

01.2 The majority of students scored at least one mark, with just under half scoring both marks.

01.3 Most students could substitute the values into the equation and obtain a correct value for the relative atomic mass. However, only about half could then give their answer to three significant figures. Some students did not appear to understand how to input their expression into a calculator and incorrectly calculated the value as

$$(39 \times 93.3) + \left(\frac{41 \times 6.7}{100}\right)$$

which gave a value of 3641.

01.4 Students who had correctly calculated the relative atomic mass were less successful at identifying the element, with some giving the response argon, and others mistakenly using the atomic number, giving a response of yttrium.

01.5 Fewer than 40% of students gave the correct answer.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 25 · Examiner comments — June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question 7 (Low and standard demand)

07.1 Nearly two-thirds of students correctly identified the coarse particle as the largest, with the fine particle being the more commonly selected of the two distractors.

07.2 Most students could calculate the volume correctly. Some attempted to calculate the surface area of the cube from scratch, failing to use the value given in the question. Nearly a half of students did obtain full marks for the question, though many failed to show their working for each step and just gave the two answers.

07.3 Fewer than a quarter of the students realised that the surface area to volume ratio of nanoparticles is greater so less of the substance needs to be used. Fewer than half gained any credit at all.

07.4 This was very well answered, with nearly all students gaining at least one mark and more than two-thirds gaining both. However, some students thought that a disadvantage could be that feet would smell, not recognising that unpleasant smells would be prevented by the silver. Another misunderstanding was that the socks could cause infections, rather than prevent them.

07.5 About a half of students could work out that the radius was 100 times larger, with 2 times larger being the most commonly chosen distractor.

Answer 26 · Examiner comments — June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question 1 (low demand)

01.1 The vast majority of students gave the correct answer, neutrons, with the others evenly split between protons and electrons.

01.2 Fewer than half of students gave the correct answer, with more choosing an electron and a neutron than the correct answer.

01.3 The great majority of students answered correctly, with the most common error being two oxygen atoms and one nitrogen.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 26 · Examiner comments June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

01.4 Three quarters of students identified the element correctly as lithium. The most common incorrect response was zinc.

01.5 This question discriminated well. Fewer than a third of students scored all the marks. Many students drew their protons and neutrons around the edge of the nucleus instead of inside it. Many of those who did do this part correctly however then used the edge of the nucleus as the first electron shell. The need for clear presentation in answers applies to diagrams as well as to written answers. Many students caused confusion by not using the symbols given in the key in the question.

Answer 27 · Examiner comments June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q3

Question 3 (low and standard demand)

03.1 Three quarters of students recognised that carbon is an element. Most of the others thought carbon is a compound.

03.2 A third of students scored both marks, with another third scoring just one. Few students chose ions or molecules, but many could not select the correct sub-atomic particles for the correct space. Protons and neutrons were often seen the wrong way round.

03.3 A third of students gave the correct answer on this standard demand question. The most common incorrect response was the inverted expression.

03.4 Only a half of students recognised diagram B as buckminsterfullerene, with nearly as many selecting **C**, which was a diagram of a nanotube.

Answer 27 · Examiner comments June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q3

03.5 The majority of students scored at least one mark. The role of the delocalised electrons in electrical conduction was well known. The lack of covalent bonds between layers causing the softness was less well known, with many opting for the hexagonal rings being the cause.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 28 · Examiner comments — June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9 (standard demand)

09.1 The description of the plum pudding model in the specification (a ball of positive charge with negative electrons embedded in it) is not well known. Very few students scored both marks and fewer than a quarter scored one. Many students believed that the positive

Answer 28 · Examiner comments — June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

charge represented a proton, or that the atom as a whole is positively charged. Some referred to a ‘sea’ or ‘cloud’ of positive charge, but these terms do not convey the shape.

09.2 Fewer than a third of students knew the correct order of discovery of the particles.

09.3 About a third of students scored both marks. Most missed the relevance of the instruction to use the period table. Many tried to work out the electron configuration, instead of simply locating element 117 in Group 7 and deducing that there must be 7 outer shell electrons.

09.4 This question was very poorly answered and did not discriminate well. Students seemed unfamiliar with the concept of the need for peer review. Most answered in terms of the rarity of the element, but this was also true for the original scientists and does not explain the time lag before acceptance.

09.5 Whilst one in ten students scored all three marks, overall, few remembered how to do this standard calculation. The four numbers in the table were manipulated in various random ways. Some students did not even use all the data. Most did not realise that the answer must lie somewhere between 6 and 7, the two mass numbers. One in five students made no attempt to answer.

4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 29 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q5

Question 5 (low and standard demand)

05.1 Nearly four fifths of students identified the number of protons. 13 was the most common distractor.

05.1 Over a half of students identified the number of neutrons. 6 was the most common distractor.

05.1 Over a half of students identified the number of electrons. 13 was the most common distractor.

05.4 Nearly three fifths of students scored the mark. Although the vast majority counted 2 carbon and 6 fluorine atoms, many could not write the formula correctly, with numbers discernibly smaller than the letters.

05.5 Only about a third of students identified that only intermolecular forces are weak. The most popular response was that both covalent bonds and intermolecular forces are weak. The myth that covalent bonds are weak is a difficult one to dispel.

05.6 More than a half of students knew that Buckminsterfullerene is spherical. The most common distractor was cylindrical, with the students possibly thinking of nanotubes.

05.7 Just under three quarters of students identified the number of bonds formed by a carbon atom in graphite. The most common distractor was 4.

05.8 Students found this standard demand question difficult, with fewer than one in twenty scoring all three marks, although more than a half did score one mark. Many did not mention the giant structure, or did not state that each carbon atom forms 4 bonds (despite having counted the bonds per atom in graphite in the previous question). Many did mention covalent bonds but then contradicted themselves by referring to intermolecular forces; these are not present, so the type of bonding mark could not be awarded. Many students gave properties of diamond, which were not asked for and gained no credit.

Answer 30 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9 (standard demand)

09.1 This question discriminated well, with one in six students scoring both marks and more than two fifths scoring at least one. Many students did not read the question fully and gave similarities and differences in properties rather than electronic structures. These responses gained no credit. Of those who did reference the electronic structure, most stated correctly that both have one electron on the outer shell, but were less successful in giving a correct difference. Sometimes the wrong number of shells was given for the two elements: usually 2 shells for sodium and 3 for potassium. Some stated that potassium has more outer shells than sodium. This is not correct as the phrase 'outer shell' is always taken to mean the single outermost shell.

09.2 More than a third of students could give two correct observations, and more than four fifths could give one, with bubbling, floating and a flame being the most popular. 'Gas produced' did not gain credit as it is not an observation but a deduction from the observation of bubbling. 'Fizzing' is taken to mean effervescence, so fizzing and bubbling are the same thing rather than two different observations. Credit was not given for any observation requiring extra equipment such as a thermometer or an indicator.

09.3 Only two fifths of students could give a correct colour and even fewer could express the reason in terms of the solution being alkaline; many thought it would be neutral. Some students gave purple as the colour, but gave potassium burning with a purple flame as their reason.

09.4 Nearly three fifths of students scored both marks for plotting the data, with the vast majority scoring at least one. The most commonly mis-plotted point was (86, 9.1) which was often plotted at (92, 9.1). There was no expectation that a line of best fit would be drawn.

09.5 Students were good at estimating the missing value, with nearly three quarters scoring the mark. Sometimes incorrect and inappropriate methods were seen which produced values in the allowed range, such as averaging all five values, or finding the difference between the points adjacent to the missing one. These were not given credit.

09.6 Over a third of students identified the reagents. There was an even distribution of incorrect responses.

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Answer 30 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

09.7 Two fifths of students identified the correct pair of trends. The most popular error was to identify that the boiling point decreases down the group.

Answer 31 · Examiner comments

Question 10 (standard demand)

10.1 Over a quarter of students could name both models, with four fifths able to name at least one - usually the plum pudding model. Far fewer knew what to call the Bohr model (even though 'nuclear' was accepted). A significant minority called model B the modern model, which contradicts the information that both were early models of the atom.

10.2 More than two fifths of students reached Level 2 in this question. The most common correct comparisons were that the modern model has a nucleus whereas model A does not, and the relative positions of the electrons in each model. Sometimes the electrons in model A were only described as negative charges. A common misconception was that model A contained protons.

10.3 Whilst few students scored both marks, nearly a third scored at least one. Of those who knew what isotopes are, most knew that isotopes had different numbers of neutrons but did not say that isotopes were atoms with the same number of protons or of the same element. Some referred to 'elements' with the same number of protons, which did not gain the first marking point. Many students used the phrase 'subatomic particles' in their answer without realising that subatomic particles means protons, neutrons and electrons. Some students described ions rather than isotopes.

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4.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms

Answer 31 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q10

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the Results Statistics page of the AQA Website.

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Answer 32 · Examiner comments

June 2025 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

Question 8 (standard demand)

08.1 Only one student in six could give a correct description of where the non-metals are found, despite there being a clear statement in the specification. Many referred to the right of the table, but few referred to the top. Those who referred to specific groups were often correct but some omitted Group 0. Some referred to a 'staircase' but did not specify what it means; it should be noted that the periodic table provided does not show a staircase.

08.2 About half correctly chose the low melting point, with the three distractors all being popular. Several ticked more than one box, which automatically scores zero when the instruction is to tick **one** box.

08.3 Three fifths of students drew the structure correctly. A few tried to put in 23 electrons and a few 12. One in seven students did not attempt to answer; this is a common occurrence when a question is not accompanied by answer lines. Students do need to read all the words, so they are aware there is a task to do.

08.4 This was answered less successfully. Many stated that Mendeleev left spaces for other elements to be discovered which, while true, does not answer the question. Others answered in terms of atomic number, which was not known in Mendeleev's time. Even those who tried to answer in terms of placing elements in the 'correct' group rarely mentioned properties.

08.5 Whilst about two fifths knew that argon has a full outer shell, not many were able to go on to say that this is a stable electronic structure, or that electrons are not transferred or shared. Many simply repeated information in the question with different words, such as 'argon is a noble gas' or 'argon is stable'.

08.6 Whilst about a quarter of students knew that a different number of neutrons was involved, few stated that isotopes are <u>atoms</u> with the same number of protons or <u>atoms</u> of the same element. Some referred to 'elements' implying more than one element, which contradicts the idea of atoms of the same element. Some students implied incorrectly that an isotope is a single atom in which the number of neutrons is different to the number of protons and electrons.

08.7 Fewer than half of students could correctly estimate that the A_r must be closest to 115 as there was such a high proportion of the 115 isotopes. The most popular answer was ~114, taking a simple mean rather than a weighted mean of the mass numbers.