AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.1.2.2

Development of the periodic table

Past-paper questions

Tier	**Foundation**
Question groups	**10**
Available paper years	**2008–2025**

Using this booklet

1. Answer the questions in order and show your working.
2. Original question numbers and marks are retained.
3. Print at actual size (100%) for measuring questions.
4. Use the companion answer booklet to check your work.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Whole questions are retained for context, so some parts assess other specification points. Current and legacy sources are labelled. Continue on extra paper if needed.

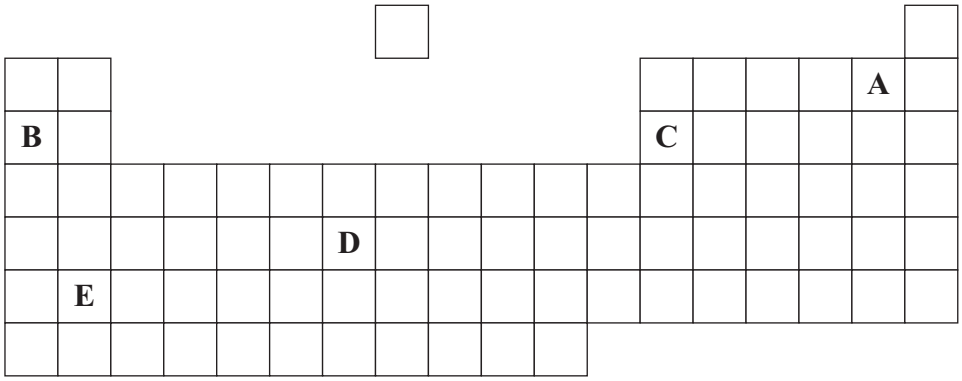
4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 01

January 2008 | CHY3F | Original Q1 | Legacy

1 (a) The periodic table on the Data Sheet may help you to answer this question.

Part of the periodic table is shown below.



Choose your answers **only** from the letters shown in the periodic table above.

Which letter, **A** to **E**, represents:

(i) sodium Letter .....

(1 mark)

(ii) a non-metal Letter .....

(1 mark)

(iii) a Group 2 element Letter .....

(1 mark)

(iv) a transition element? Letter .....

(1 mark)

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 01 · continued

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(b) Complete these sentences by drawing a ring around the correct answer.

(i) Attempts to classify the elements into a periodic table were made

by [Arrhenius and Dalton / Brønsted and Lowry / Mendeleev and Newlands] .

(1 mark)

(ii) They arranged the elements in order of their [atomic weight / melting point / reactivity] .

(1 mark)

(iii) They put elements in the same Group if they had similar [boiling points / chemical reactions / electrical conductivities] .

(1 mark)

(iv) We now know that elements in the same Group have the same number of

[electrons / neutrons / protons] in their outer shell (energy level).

(1 mark)

8

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

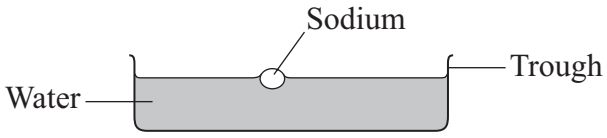
Question 02

June 2008 | CHY3F | Original Q2 | Legacy

2 (a) Read a student's report about the reaction between sodium and water.

The reaction between sodium and water

A small piece of sodium was added to some water in a trough.



The sodium floated and started to react.

The sodium moved along the surface of the water and melted to give a ball of molten metal.

The ball became smaller and smaller until it had all gone.

A gas was given off and a colourless solution was left.

The word equation for this reaction is:

sodium + water → sodium hydroxide + hydrogen

Use the information from the student's report to answer these questions.

2 (a) (i) Which information shows that sodium has a low density?

.....

(1 mark)

2 (a) (ii) Which information shows that the reaction is exothermic?

.....

(1 mark)

2 (a) (iii) Name the gas given off.

.....

(1 mark)

2 (b) The periodic table on the Data Sheet may help you to answer these questions.

2 (b) (i) Sodium is in Group 1.

Name a Group 1 element that is more reactive than sodium.

.....

(1 mark)

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 02 · continued

for mark

2 (b) (ii) Here are some statements about Group 1 elements.
Only **two** of these statements are correct.
Put a tick (✓) next to the **two** correct statements.

Statement	(✓)
They are halogens	
They are metals	
They form covalent compounds	
They form ions with a +1 charge	

(2 marks)

2 (c) Dimitri Mendeleev put forward his periodic table in 1869.

Complete these sentences by drawing a ring around the correct answer.

2 (c) (i) Mendeleev arranged the elements in order of their [atomic weight / density / reactivity] .

(1 mark)

2 (c) (ii) The table is called a periodic table because elements with [identical / the same / similar] properties occur at regular intervals.

(1 mark)

2 (c) (iii) The vertical columns are known as [groups / periods / rows] .

(1 mark)

2 (d) How did Mendeleev overcome the problem of undiscovered elements when he designed his table?

.....

(1 mark)

10

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 03

June 2011 | CHY3F | Original Q1 | Legacy

1 Use the periodic table on the Data Sheet to help you to answer these questions.

1 (a) The following is a list of symbols of some elements.

Sb	**Se**	**Si**	**Sn**	**Sr**

Choose your answers **only** from the symbols shown in the box above.

Which symbol represents

1 (a) (i) a Group 5 element ☐

(1 mark)

1 (a) (ii) the element in the same group as oxygen (O) ☐

(1 mark)

1 (a) (iii) the element with atomic (proton) number of 50 ☐

(1 mark)

1 (a) (iv) silicon? ☐

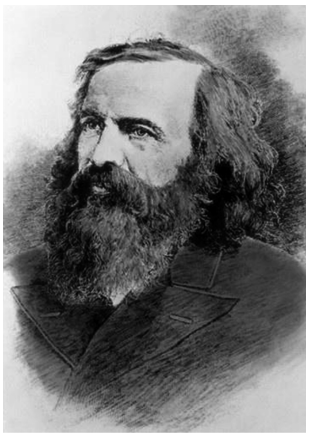
(1 mark)

Question 1 continues on the next page

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 03 · continued

1 (b)



Mendeleev suggested his version of the periodic table in 1869.

Part of Mendeleev's table is shown below.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7
H						
Li	Be	B	C	N	O	F
Na	Mg	Al	Si	P	S	Cl
K	Ca	#	Ti	V	Cr	Mn
Cu	Zn	#	#	As	Se	Br

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 03 · continued

There are differences between Mendeleev's table and the periodic table on the Data Sheet.

Draw a ring around the correct answer to complete the sentences.

1 (b) (i) Mendeleev left gaps (shown by #) in his table.

Mendeleev left gaps for [compounds / elements / mixtures] that had not been discovered.

(1 mark)

1 (b) (ii) Mendeleev put copper (Cu) in the same box as [bromine (Br). / chromium (Cr). / potassium (K).]

(1 mark)

1 (b) (iii) Mendeleev did **not** have a Group [0. / 3. / 5.]

(1 mark)

7

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 04

June 2013 | CH3FP | Original Q3 | Legacy

3 This question is about the periodic table.

Use the Chemistry Data Sheet to help you answer these questions.

3 (a) Complete the sentences.

Elements in the periodic table are arranged in order of atomic ..... .

The elements in Group ..... are called the noble gases.

(2 marks)

3 (b) Calcium (Ca) is in Group 2.

Name **one** other element in Group 2.

.....

(1 mark)

3 (c) Draw a ring around the correct answer to complete each sentence.

3 (c) (i) Sodium (Na) is

an alkali metal.

a non-metal.

a transition metal.

(1 mark)

3 (c) (ii) Nickel (Ni) is

an alkali metal.

a non-metal.

a transition metal.

(1 mark)

3 (d) In 1869 Mendeleev produced his periodic table.

Why did Mendeleev leave gaps in his periodic table?

.....

.....

(1 mark)

6

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 05

June 2014 | CH3FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

1 This question is about the periodic table of elements.

Use the Chemistry Data Sheet to help you to answer these questions.

In 1869 Dmitri Mendeleev produced an early version of the periodic table.

1 (a) Draw a ring around the correct answer to complete each sentence.

1 (a) (i) Mendeleev first arranged the elements in order of their

atomic weight.

date of discovery.

electron number.

[1 mark]

1 (a) (ii) Mendeleev then placed elements with similar properties in columns called

groups.

periods.

shells.

[1 mark]

1 (a) (iii) When the next element did not fit the pattern,

Mendeleev

ignored the element.

left a gap.

put the element at the end of the row.

[1 mark]

1 (a) (iv) Mendeleev was not able to include the noble gases (Group 0) in his periodic table

because the noble gases

are not elements.

are not reactive.

had not been discovered by 1869.

[1 mark]

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 05 · continued

1 (b) Use the correct word from the box to complete each sentence.

[2 marks]

electrons	molecules	neutrons	protons

In the modern periodic table elements are arranged in order of the number of ..... in their nucleus. Elements in the same group have the same number of ..... in their highest energy level (outer shell).

1 (c) Sodium (Na) is in Group 1 of the periodic table.

Nickel (Ni) is a transition element.

Tick (✓) **two** correct statements about sodium and nickel.

[2 marks]

Statement	Tick (✓)
Sodium and nickel are both metals.	
Sodium has a higher melting point than nickel.	
Sodium is more reactive than nickel.	
Sodium is harder than nickel.	

1 (d) Chlorine, bromine and iodine are in Group 7 of the periodic table.

Chlorine is more reactive than bromine.

1 (d) (i) Complete the word equation for the reaction between chlorine and sodium bromide.

[1 mark]

chlorine + sodium bromide ⟶ ..... + sodium chloride

1 (d) (ii) Why does iodine **not** react with sodium bromide solution?

[1 mark]

.....

.....

10

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 06

June 2015 | CH3FP | Original Q8 | Legacy

8 In 1866 John Newlands produced an early version of the periodic table.

Part of Newlands' periodic table is shown in **Figure 6**.

Figure 6

Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	H	Li	Be	B	C	N	O
	F	Na	Mg	Al	Si	P	S
	Cl	K	Ca	Cr	Ti	Mn	Fe

Newlands' periodic table arranged all the known elements into columns in order of their atomic weight.

Newlands was trying to show a pattern by putting the elements into columns.

8 (a) Iron (Fe) does **not** fit the pattern in column 7.

Give a reason why.

[1 mark]

.....

.....

8 (b) In 1869 Dmitri Mendeleev produced his version of the periodic table.

Why did Mendeleev leave gaps for undiscovered elements in his periodic table?

[1 mark]

.....

.....

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 06 · continued

8 (c) Newlands and Mendeleev placed the elements in order of atomic weight.

Complete the sentence.

[1 mark]

The modern periodic table places the elements in order of ..... .

8 (d) Lithium, sodium and potassium are all in Group 1 of the modern periodic table.

Explain why.

[2 marks]

.....

.....

.....

.....

5

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 07

June 2016 | CH3FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

1 This question is about elements and the periodic table.

1 (a) Use the correct answers from the box to complete the sentences.

[3 marks]

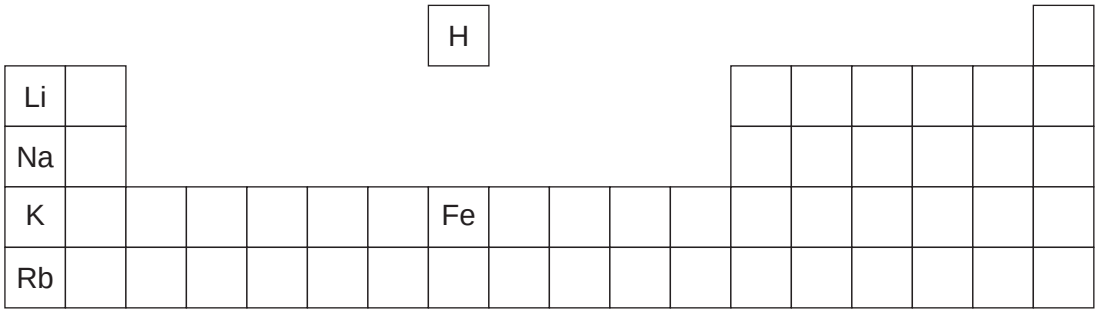
atoms	**atomic weights**	**electrons**	**proton numbers**

Newlands' and Mendeleev's periodic tables show the elements in order of their _____ .

Following the discovery of protons and _____, the modern periodic table shows the elements in order of their _____ .

1 (b) **Figure 1** shows the position of six elements in the modern periodic table.

Figure 1



1 (b) (i) Which **one** of these six elements has the lowest boiling point?

[1 mark]

_____

1 (b) (ii) Complete the sentence.

[1 mark]

In the periodic table, rubidium (Rb) is in Group _____ .

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 07 · continued

1 (b) (iii) Which of these three elements is the most reactive?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Lithium (Li) ☐

Sodium (Na) ☐

Potassium (K) ☐

1 (b) (iv) Which **two** statements are correct?

[2 marks]

Tick (✓) **two** boxes.

Iron has a higher density than potassium. ☐

Iron is softer than potassium. ☐

Iron reacts vigorously with water. ☐

Iron forms ions that have different charges. ☐

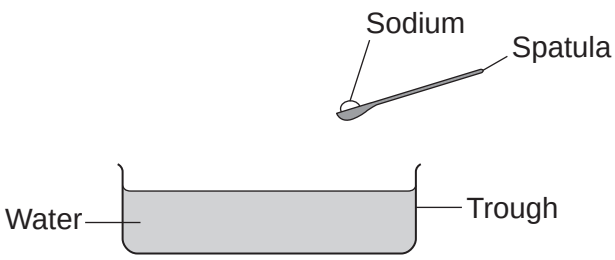
Question 1 continues on the next page

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 07 · continued

1 (c) **Figure 2** shows sodium being put into water.

Figure 2



Describe **three** observations that can be seen when sodium is put into water.

[3 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

3 _____

_____

11

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 08

0 8 This question is about the periodic table.

In the 19th century, some scientists tried to classify the elements by arranging them in order of their atomic weights.

Figure 11 shows the periodic table Mendeleev produced in 1869.

His periodic table was more widely accepted than previous versions.

Figure 11

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7
Period 1	H						
Period 2	Li	Be	B	C	N	O	F
Period 3	Na	Mg	Al	Si	P	S	Cl
Period 4	K Cu	Ca Zn	* *	Ti *	V As	Cr Se	Mn Br
Period 5	Rb Ag	Sr Cd	Y In	Zr Sn	Nb Sb	Mo Te	* I

0 8 . 1 The atomic weight of tellurium (Te) is 128 and that of iodine (I) is 127

Why did Mendeleev reverse the order of these two elements?

[1 mark]

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 08 · continued

0 8 . 2 Mendeleev left spaces marked with an asterisk *

He left these spaces because he thought missing elements belonged there.

Why did Mendeleev's periodic table become more widely accepted than previous versions?

[3 marks]

0 8 . 3 Mendeleev arranged the elements in order of their atomic weight.

What is the modern name for atomic weight?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Atomic number ☐
- Mass number ☐
- Relative atomic mass ☐
- Relative formula mass ☐

0 8 . 4 Complete the sentence.

[1 mark]

In the modern periodic table, the elements are arranged in order of

_____.

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 08 · continued

Chlorine, iodine and astatine are in Group 7 of the modern periodic table.

0 8 . 5 Astatine (At) is below iodine in Group 7.

Predict:

- the formula of an astatine molecule
- the state of astatine at room temperature.

[2 marks]

Formula of astatine molecule _____

State at room temperature _____

0 8 . 6 Sodium is in Group 1 of the modern periodic table.

Describe what you would see when sodium reacts with chlorine.

[2 marks]

_____

_____

_____

_____

10

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 09

November 2021 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

0 9 This question is about atomic structure and the periodic table.

Gallium (Ga) is an element that has two isotopes.

0 9 . 1 Give the meaning of 'isotopes'.

You should answer in terms of subatomic particles.

[2 marks]

0 9 . 2 **Table 8** shows the mass numbers and percentage abundances of the isotopes of gallium.

Table 8

Mass number	Percentage abundance (%)
69	60
71	40

Calculate the relative atomic mass (A_r) of gallium.

Give your answer to 1 decimal place.

[2 marks]

Relative atomic mass (1 decimal place) = _____

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 09 · continued

Gallium (Ga) is in Group 3 of the modern periodic table.

0 9 . 3 Give the numbers of electrons and neutrons in an atom of the isotope $^{69}_{31}Ga$

[2 marks]

Number of electrons _____

Number of neutrons _____

0 9 . 4 What is the most likely formula of a gallium ion?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Ga^{+} ☐
- Ga^{-} ☐
- Ga^{3+} ☐
- Ga^{3-} ☐

0 9 . 5 Gallium was discovered six years after Mendeleev published his periodic table.

Give **two** reasons why the discovery of gallium helped Mendeleev's periodic table to become accepted.

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

9

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 10

June 2025 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

0 8 This question is about elements in the periodic table.

0 8 . 1 Describe where the non-metallic elements are found in the periodic table.

[1 mark]

0 8 . 2 Gallium (Ga) is a metallic element in Group 3.

Which of these properties of gallium is **not** typical of most metals?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- A boiling point above 1000 °C ☐
- A melting point below 100 °C ☐
- Conducts electricity when solid ☐
- Forms positive ions ☐

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

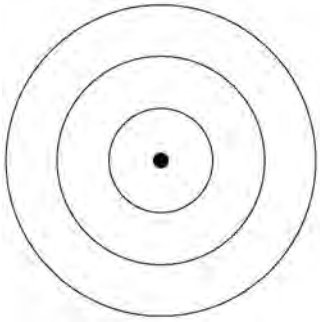
Question 10 · continued

0 8 . 3 A sodium atom can be represented as $^{23}_{11}Na$

Complete **Figure 12** to show the electronic structure of a sodium atom.

[1 mark]

Figure 12



0 8 . 4 Mendeleev created an early periodic table.

Mendeleev placed most of the elements in order of atomic weight.

Tellurium and iodine were not placed in order of atomic weight.

Why did Mendeleev **not** place tellurium and iodine in order of atomic weight?

[1 mark]

0 8 . 5 Argon is an element in Group 0 of the periodic table.

Explain why argon is unreactive.

[2 marks]

4.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table

Question 10 · continued

An element **X** consists of two isotopes.

0 8 . 6 What is meant by 'isotopes'?

Answer in terms of subatomic particles.

[2 marks]

0 8 . 7 **Table 5** shows the mass numbers and percentage abundances of the isotopes of **X**.

Table 5

Mass number	Percentage abundance (%)
113	4
115	96

Which is the closest estimate to the relative atomic mass of **X**?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

~113 ☐ ~114 ☐ ~115 ☐

9