AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.2.1.4

Covalent bonding

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.

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

January 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	CH_4	4 should be below halfway up H / tail of 4 below the dotted line	1
(b)	molecule		1
(c)	covalent		1
total			3

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

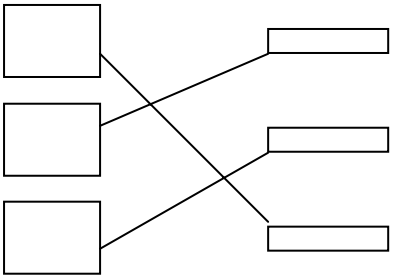
January 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q1 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)		all three lines correct gains **2** mark one or two correct gains **1** mark if there are more than 3 lines then lose mark for each extra line	2
(b)(i)	covalent		1
(b)(ii)	four		1
(b)(iii)	hard		1
(b)(iv)	three		1
(b)(v)	soft		1
(c)	carbon	accept C	1
total			8

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

January 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q2 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	ionic		1
(a)(ii)	elements		1
(b)(i)	chlorine (gas)	allow Cl_2 / Cl / Cl^2 allow chloride	1
(b)(ii)	hydrogen (gas)	allow H / H_2 / H^2	1
(b)(iii)	sodium hydroxide (solution)	allow NaOH allow sodium solution	1
total			5

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 03 · Mark scheme January 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY2F

Answer 04 · Mark scheme June 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q3 | Legacy

question	answers	extra information	mark
3	high		1
	giant	allow covalent	1
	four		1
	covalent		1
Total			**4**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2008 | CHY3F | Original Q2 | Legacy

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)(i)	floated / (moved on) surface	accept does not sink ignore it melted	1
2(a)(ii)	melted / molten	ignore heat is given off	1
2(a)(iii)	hydrogen	allow H_2	1
2(b)(i)	potassium / rubidium / caesium / francium	accept: K / Rb / Cs / Fr	1
2(b)(ii)	they are metals they form ions with a 1+ charge		1 1
2(c)(i)	atomic weight		1
2(c)(ii)	similar		1
2(c)(iii)	groups		1
2(d)	left gaps owtte		1
Total			**10**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2008 | CHY3F | Original Q2 | Legacy

COMPONENT NUMBER: CHY3F

COMPONENT NAME: Chemistry

STATUS: Final

DATE: June 2008

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

June 2009 | CHY2F | Original Q5 | Legacy

Question 5

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(a)	any **two** from: • conducts electricity • soft • slippery • high melting point	ignore hardwearing / does not stick apply list principle	2
5(b)(i)	three covalent		1 1
5(b)(ii)	it is made of layers of atoms		1
Total			**5**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

June 2009 | CHY2F | Original Q5 | Legacy

CHY2F

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

November 2009 | CHY1BP | Original Q9 | Legacy

No matching mark scheme was available in the supplied archive for this question.

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)	elements		1
4(b)(i)	nucleus		1
4(b)(ii)	six		1
4(c)(i)	CH_4		1
4(c)(ii)	bond		1
4(d)(i)	oxygen		1
4(d)(ii)	any **one** from: • (water) does not pollute • (only) water is produced • no carbon dioxide / monoxide (is produced)	 accept no harmful gas(es) allow less pollution accept no greenhouse gas(es) / effect **or** no global warming	1
Total			**7**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY1F | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY1F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)	the diameter of the tube is very small		1
4(b)(i)	three		1
4(b)(ii)	covalent		1
4(b)(iii)	bonds		1
Total			**4**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(a)(i)	mix (owtte)	accept to allow more collisions / helps particles to collide (owtte) idea of more efficient heat transfer do **not** allow heat is a catalyst	1
6(a)(ii)	higher **and** more powder **and** big concentrated **and** more		1 1 1
6(b)	electrons		1
6(c)	H^+		1
Total			**6**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q6 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 11 · 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**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 11 · Mark scheme

June 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q2 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)	carbon		1
4(b)	all		1
4(c)	covalent		1
4(d)	four		1
4(e)	hard		1
Total			**5**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)	any **two** from • shorter / quicker soaking time • takes less time / quicker to dry **or** faster evaporation • dissolves quicker / better in methanol	assume it = methanol allow converse for water allow it is quicker	2
2(b)(i)	CH_4O		1
2(b)(ii)	covalent		1
2(c)	it is made of small molecules		1
Total			**5**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

January 2011 | CHY2F | Original Q2 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | CHY2F | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)(i)	NH_3		1
1(a)(ii)	electrons		1
1(a)(iii)	covalent		1
1(b)(i)	air natural gas		1 1
1(b)(ii)	reversible		1
1(b)(iii)	iron		1
1(c)	nitric acid		1
1(d)(i)	any **one** from: • lost jobs / unemployment • meant that they had to move away from Humberstone **or** no one lives there • loss of income (owtte)	allow closed down the town ignore it closed the mine unless it is further qualified by some effect of this on the local community	1

Question 1 continues on the next page

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Question 1 continued

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(d)(ii)	any **two** from: • less transport (costs) • less pollution / greenhouse gases / global warming <u>from transport</u> • cheaper to make in country than to import • not dependent on Chile for nitrate supplies **or** reliable source • provides employment to workers in Britain • good for British economy • raw materials readily available • continuous process	ignore reference to environment / ecofriendly allow smaller carbon footprint ignore reference to quicker	2
Total			**11**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | CHY2F | Original Q1 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 15 · Mark scheme June 2012 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

question	Answers	extra information	mark
1(a)	oxygen **and** water	both needed for mark allow hydrogen oxide for water in any order ignore formulae	1
1(b)(i)	best fit line, omitting point at 10s	straight line drawn through all correct points	1
1(b)(ii)	circle around point at 10 s	allow any indication	1
1(b)(iii)	7.5	allow ecf from candidate's line	1
1(b)(iv)	increases (with time)	accept goes from 0 to 12.5	1
1(c)(i)	higher		1
1(c)(ii)	more concentrated		1
1(d)(i)	share		1
1(d)(ii)	covalent		1
1(d)(iii)	simple molecules		1
1(e)	Water has a boiling point of 100°C Water has a melting point lower than room temperature		1 1
Total			**12**

……..

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

CH2FP

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH2FP | Original Q5 | Legacy

Question 5

question	answers	extra information	Mark
5(a)(i)	covalent	two different answers indicated gains **0** marks	1
5(a)(ii)	carbon	two different answers indicated gains **0** marks	1
5(a)(iii)	3	two different answers indicated gains **0** marks	1
5(b)	layers can slide / slip because there are no bonds between layers **or** so (pieces of) graphite rubs / breaks off **or** graphite left on the paper	 accept because weak forces / bonds between layers	1 1
Total			**5**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH2FP | Original Q5 | Legacy

CH2FP

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 17 · 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**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

January 2013

CH2FP

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 18 · 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**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 19 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH1FP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
4(a)	hydrocarbons **or** hydrocarbon		1	1 / 1.4.1c	G
4(b)(i)	distillation		1	1 / 1.4.2b	G
4(b)(ii)	evaporation		1	2 / 1.4.2b	G
4(b)(iii)	condensation		1	2 / 1.4.2b	G
4(c)(i)	bond		1	1 / 1.4.2a	G
4(c)(ii)	$(C_6H)_{14}$		1	2 / 1.4.2a	G
4(c)(iii)	cracking		1	1 / 1.5.1a	G
4(d)(i)	poly(butene)	allow with or without brackets	1	1 / 1.5.2a	E
4(d)(ii)	Advantage=energy is released Disadvantage=carbon dioxide is produced	do **not** accept more than one tick in the advantage column do **not** accept more than one tick in the disadvantage column	1 1	3 / 1.5	G
Total			**10**		

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 19 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH1FP | Original Q4 | Legacy



4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 20 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
1(a)(i)	high		1	1 / 2.2.3a	A
1(a)(ii)	hundred		1	1 / 2.2.6a	A
1(b)	hard		1	1 / 2.2.3b	A
1(c)(i)	carbon		1	1 / 2.2.3a	A
1(c)(ii)	four		1	1 / 2.2.3b	A
1(c)(iii)	covalent		1	1 / 2.2.3a/b	A
1(c)(iv)	all		1	1 / 2.2.3a	A
Total			7		

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 20 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy



4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 21 · Mark scheme

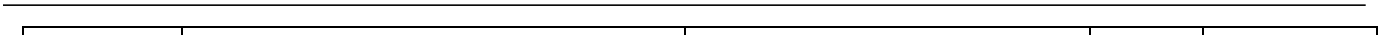
June 2015 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
4(a)	any **one** from: • protection/improve lifespan • improve appearance		1	**AO2** 2.7.1d
4(b)(i)	Bleach		1	**AO1** 2.7.1i
4(b)(ii)	Hydrogen is less reactive than sodium.		1	**AO2** 2.7.1f
4(b)(iii)	1 bonding pair of electrons 6 unbonded electrons on Cl	accept dot, cross or e or – or any combination	1	**AO1** 2.7.1e
4(b)(iv)	Covalent		1	**AO1** 2.7.1f
4(b)(v)	Hydrogen chloride has a low boiling point. Hydrogen chloride is made of simple molecules.		1 1	**AO1** 2.2.1a 2.1.1g
4(c)(i)	oxygen	accept carbon dioxide	1	**AO1** 2.7.1h
4(c)(ii)	aluminium ions are positive so are attracted (to the negative electrode)	allow opposites attract	1 1	**AO1/AO2** 2.7.1h 2.2.2b
4(c)(iii)	Reduction		1	**AO1** 2.7.1e
4(c)(iv)	slide	allow move	1	**AO1** 2.2.4b
4(d)(i)	C		1	**AO1** 2.2.3a,c
4(d)(ii)	strong covalent bonds		1	**AO1** 2.2.3a
Total			**14**	

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 21 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy



4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 22 · Mark scheme

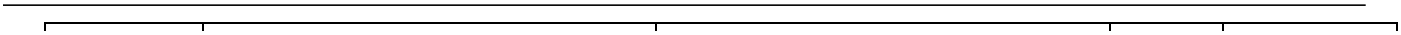
June 2017 | CH2FP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
3(a)(i)	tick (✓) by: covalent		1	AO1 2.1.1g
3(a)(ii)	ticks (✓) by: oxygen consists of small molecules oxygen has a low boiling point		1 1	AO1 2.1.1g
3(b)(i)	magnesium (atom) loses (electrons) oxygen (atom) gains (electrons) two (electrons) ions formed	max 3 if reference to incorrect particle or incorrect bonding accept ionic bonding or full outer shells/noble gas structure is formed allow magnesium forms positive (ion) **or** oxygen forms negative (ion)	1 1 1 1	AO1 AO2 2.1.1a,b,c, d,e,f
3(b)(ii)	ticks (✓) by: nanoparticles contain a few hundred atoms nanoparticles have a high surface area to volume ratio		1 1	AO1 2.2.6a
3(c)	giant covalent		1	AO1 2.2.3a
Total			**10**	

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 22 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | CH2FP | Original Q3 | Legacy

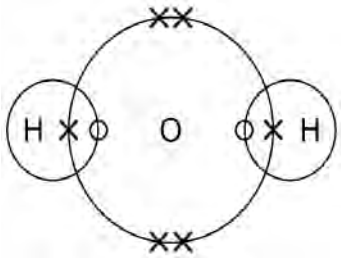


4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 23 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/1F | Original Q2

Question 2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	H_2O_2		1	AO2 4.1.1.1 4.2.1.4
02.2	covalent		1	AO1 4.2.1.4
02.3	transition metals		1	AO1 4.1.3.2
02.4	B		1	AO1 4.5.1.2
02.5	A		1	AO2 4.5.1.2
02.6	exothermic		1	AO1 4.5.1.1
02.7	 1 bonding pair of electrons in the right hand overlap 4 non-bonding electrons on oxygen	 scores **2** marks allow dots, crosses, circles or $e^{(-)}$ for electrons do **not** accept any change to the number of electrons in the left hand overlap do **not** accept non-bonding electrons on hydrogen ignore inner shell electrons drawn on oxygen	 1 1	AO1 4.2.1.4
Total			**8**	

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 24 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	poly(ethene) water		1 1	AO2 4.2.1.4 4.2.2.4 4.2.2.5

Question 8 continued

Question	Answers	Mark	AO/ Spec. Ref
08.2	**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.	4–6	AO1 4.2.1.2 4.2.1.3 4.2.1.4
	Level 1: Relevant features are identified and differences noted.	1–3	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content • (both) carbon dioxide and silicon dioxide are made up of atoms • (but) magnesium oxide is made up of ions • (both) silicon dioxide and magnesium oxide are giant structures • (but) carbon dioxide is small molecules • with weak intermolecular forces • all three compounds have strong bonds • (both) carbon dioxide and silicon dioxide are formed from two non-metals • (so) bonds formed are covalent • (so) electron (pairs) are shared (between atoms) • (but) magnesium oxide is formed from a metal and a non-metal • (so) bonds in magnesium oxide are ionic • (so) electrons are transferred • from magnesium to oxygen • two electrons are transferred • bonds in silicon dioxide are single bonds • (where) each silicon forms four bonds • (and) each oxygen forms two bonds • (but) in carbon dioxide the bonds are double bonds • (where) carbon forms two double bonds • (and) oxygen forms one double bond ignore properties e.g. melting point, electrical conductivity		

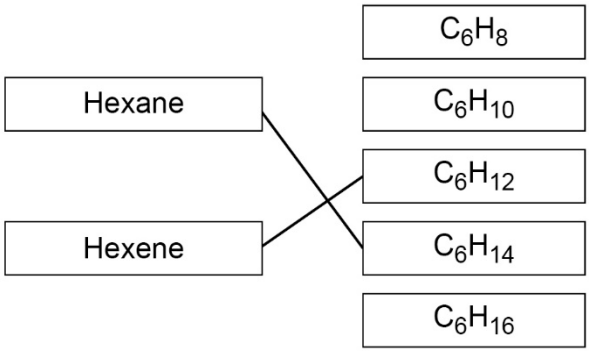
Total			8

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 25 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/2F | Original Q10

Question 10

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.1	 additional line from a box on the left negates the mark for that box		1 1	AO2 4.7.1.1 4.7.2.1
10.2	(remains) orange (becomes) colourless	must be in this order allow no (colour) change ignore initial colour ignore clear	 1 1	AO2 4.7.1.4

Answer 25 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/2F | Original Q10

Question 10 (continued)

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.3	**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.	4–6	AO1 AO2
	Level 1: Relevant features are identified and differences noted.	1–3	
	No relevant content	0	4.7.1.1 4.7.1.3 4.7.1.4 4.7.2.1 4.7.2.2 4.9.3.1
	Indicative content **Structure and bonding** • both are hydrocarbons • both contain two carbon atoms (per molecule) • ethane contains six hydrogen atoms (per molecule) • (but) ethene contains four hydrogen atoms (per molecule) • both have covalent bonds • ethane contains a single C—C bond • (but) ethene contains a double bond • both contain C—H bonds • both small molecules **Reactions** • both react with oxygen in complete combustion reactions • to produce water and carbon dioxide • both react with oxygen in incomplete combustion reactions • to produce water, carbon monoxide and carbon • incomplete combustion is more likely with ethene • ethene decolourises bromine water • (but) ethane does not decolourise bromine water • ethene is more reactive (than ethane) • ethene can react with hydrogen (to produce ethane) • ethene can react with water (to produce ethanol) • ethene can react with halogens (to produce halogenoalkanes) • ethene can undergo addition reactions • ethene can polymerise (to produce poly(ethene)) ignore physical properties ignore references to flammability		

Total			10

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 26 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1F | Original Q3

Question 3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.1	2,8,8,1		1	AO2 4.1.1.7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.2	they have the same number of outer shell electrons		1	AO1 4.1.2.1 4.1.2.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.3	metallic		1	AO1 4.2.1.5 1-3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.4	any **two** from: • bubbles (very) quickly • melts (into a ball) • floats • moves (very) quickly	allow flame	2	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.5	(reactivity) increases (down the group)		1	AO1 4.1.2.5

Question 3 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.6	any **two** from: • increasing speed of movement • increasing rate of bubble production • doesn't melt → melts • no flame → flame **or** flame → explosion		2	AO3 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.7	hydrogen		1	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.2

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 26 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1F | Original Q3

Question 3 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.8	sodium ion structure 2,8 fluoride ion structure 2,8 + charge on sodium ion **and** – charge on fluoride ion	allow any combination of circles, dots, crosses or $e^{(-)}$	1 1 1	AO2 4.2.1.2
	an answer of  sodium ion fluoride ion scores **3** marks			

Total		12

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

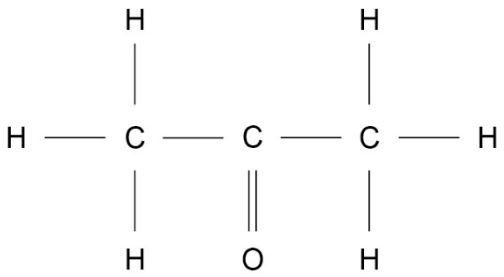
Answer 27 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	spherical	allow ball-shaped ignore round / circular	1	AO1 4.2.3.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	any **one** from: • drug delivery (round the body) • hydrogen storage • anti-oxidants • reduction of bacterial growth • catalysts • (cylindrical fullerenes for) strengthening materials • (spherical fullerenes for) lubricants		1	AO1 4.2.3.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3			1	AO2 4.2.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	C_3H_6O	allow CH_3COCH_3 allow elements in any order	1	AO2 4.2.1.4

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Question 8 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5	the intermolecular forces are weak		1	AO1 4.2.2.1 4.2.2.4

Question	Answers	Mark	AO/ Spec. Ref
08.6	**Level 3**: Relevant points (reasons/causes) are identified, given in detail and logically linked to form a clear account.	5–6	AO1 4.2.2.6 4.2.3.2
	Level 2: Relevant points (reasons/causes) are identified, and there are attempts at logical linking. The resulting account is not fully clear.	3–4	
	Level 1: Points are identified and stated simply, but their relevance is not clear and there is no attempt at logical linking.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content • bonds are covalent • giant / macromolecular structure • three (covalent) bonds per carbon atom **or** only three electrons per carbon atom used in (covalent) bonds • so one electron per carbon atom (is delocalised) • these delocalised electrons • can move through the structure • carrying (electrical) charge • so graphite conducts electricity • layered structure • of (interlocking) hexagonal rings • with weak (intermolecular) forces between layers **or** no (covalent) bonds between layers • so the layers can slide over each other • so graphite is soft and slippery		

Total			11

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 28 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q6

Question 6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.1	C		1	AO1 4.2.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.2	D		1	AO1 4.2.1.4 4.2.2.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.3	4 / four		1	AO1 4.2.3.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.4	very hard		1	AO1 4.2.2.6 4.2.3.1

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 28 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.5	C_2H_6		1	AO2 4.2.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.6	H^+		1	AO1 4.4.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.7	(M_r =) (1 × 2) + 12 + (16 × 3) = 62	allow (M_r =) 2 + 12 + 48	1 1	AO2 4.3.1.2

Total Question 6		**8**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 29 · 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

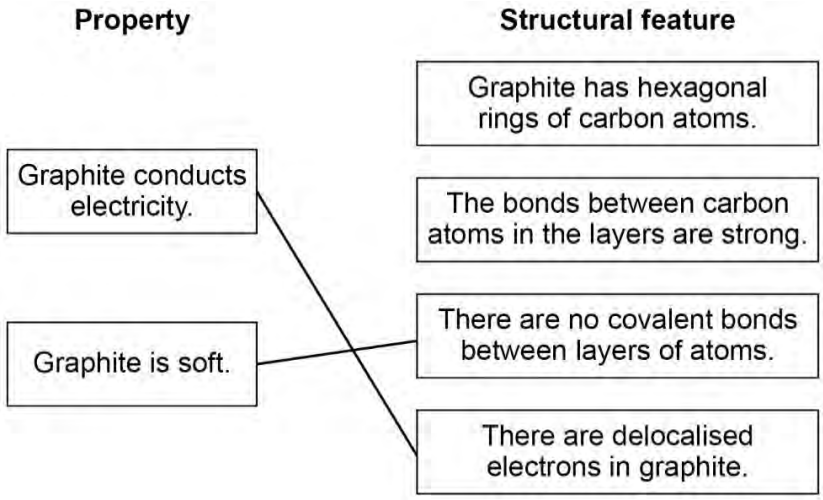
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.3	$\frac{12}{6.02 \times 10^{23}}$		1	AO2 4.1.1.1

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

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 29 · 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

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 30 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	D		1	AO2 4.1.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.2	C		1	AO2 4.1.1.1

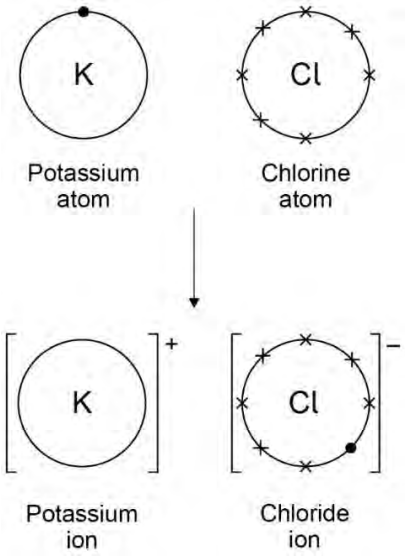
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3	sections **A**, **B** and **C**		1	AO1 4.1.2.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.4	can be bent and shaped good conductor of electricity		1 1	AO1 4.1.2.3 4.1.3.1 4.2.2.7

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 30 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.5	evidence of the outer electron on the potassium atom moving to leave a potassium ion with no outer electrons	allow any combination of ×, •, ○, $e^{(-)}$ for electrons ignore any inner shells allow potassium ion with eight outer electrons	1	AO2 4.1.2.5 4.2.1.2
	chloride ion with eight outer electrons		1	
		an answer of  scores **2** marks		

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 30 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.6	B		1	AO2 4.1.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.7	A		1	AO1 4.1.1.2

Total Question 1	**9**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 31 · 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

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 31 · 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**

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 32 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	CaS		1	AO2 4.2.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.2	calcium (atom) loses electrons		1	AO2 4.2.1.1 4.2.1.2
	sulfur (atom) gains electrons		1	
	reference to transfer of two electrons		1	
	calcium forms positive ions **and** sulfur forms negative ions	allow Ca^{2+} (ions) **and** S^{2-} (ions) are formed allow calcium ions **and** sulfide ions are formed	1	

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 32 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	**Level 2:** Scientifically relevant facts, events or processes are identified and given in detail to form an accurate account.	3–4	AO1 4.2.1.1 4.2.1.4 4.2.2.6 4.2.3.2
	Level 1: Facts, events or processes are identified and simply stated but their relevance is not clear.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content • giant structure • layers • of hexagonal rings • each (carbon) atom forms three bonds • has no covalent bonds between layers • with delocalised electrons • one delocalised electron from each carbon atom • the bonds are covalent • with shared (pairs of) electrons • the (covalent) bonds are strong		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	the molecules do not have an (overall electric) charge	allow there are no ions allow there are no delocalised electrons	1	AO1 4.2.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5	poly(ethene) has stronger intermolecular forces to overcome than methane		1	AO1 4.2.2.4 4.2.2.5

Total Question 9	11

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 23 · Examiner comments June 2019 | 8462/1F | Original Q2

Question 2 (low demand)

02.1 Over 85% of students identified the correct formula of hydrogen peroxide.

02.2 Approximately 70% of students identified covalent bonding as the bonding in a hydrogen peroxide molecule.

02.3 Students found this question about elements as catalysts difficult. The 3 options were chosen in similar proportions.

02.4 Approximately three-quarters of students correctly identified the activation energy on the reaction profile diagram.

02.5 This question proved more difficult with approximately 45% of students being able to identify the energy of hydrogen peroxide on the reaction profile diagram.

02.6 Approximately 80% of students identified the reaction as exothermic, having been given a description.

02.7 Approximately 55% of students were able to score both marks for completing the dot and cross diagram.

The mark for the bonding electrons was scored more often than the mark for the non-bonding electrons.

Answer 28 · Examiner comments June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q6

Question 6 (Low and standard demand)

06.1 Nearly two thirds of students could select the correct diagram to show graphite. The structures of the two fullerenes were popular distractors.

06.2 Fewer than half of students could identify **D** as representing poly(ethene). All three other diagrams were popular, with **B** attracting a quarter of the responses.

06.3 Although a diagram was provided, only just over a half of students gave 4 as their answer.

06.4 The great majority of students could identify that diamond is very hard.

06.5 Just over half of the students could count the atoms in the figure and then write the formula correctly. Many failed to gain credit because the numbers were not subscripts but the same size as the letters, or even larger.

06.6 Just over a third of students could demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of acids to choose the hydrogen ion, with the majority of students opting for the hydroxide ion.

06.7 Over a half of students got the correct answer. The most common error was to assume there were three atoms of carbon as well as oxygen, giving an answer of 86. Other common errors were to add 1, 12 and 16 together, or to multiply relative atomic masses together.

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 29 · 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 29 · 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.

Answer 30 · Examiner comments June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

Question 1 (low demand)

01.1 More than two thirds of students identified the pure compound, with the three distractors being approximately equally popular.

01.2 Just over one third of students identified the correct mixture. Distractor **A**, which is a mixture of two compounds, proved more popular than the correct answer.

01.3 More than four fifths of students identified the position of metals in the periodic table. Sections **B**, **C** and **D** was the most popular distractor.

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4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 30 · Examiner comments June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q1

01.4 Fewer than one third of students scored both marks, with nearly one in ten scoring neither. Low melting point was a popular distractor.

01.5 Over half of students scored both marks. Some students placed the electron from the potassium atom on the chlorine atom, rather than completing the structure of the chloride ion. Some added to the potassium ion diagram unnecessarily. A few showed an electron moving from chlorine to potassium. There were some blank answers, perhaps because the students did not realise there was something to do; students need to read the whole paper, not just the parts above an answer line.

01.6 More than four fifths of students identified the distillation apparatus.

01.7 Nearly all students identified the filtration apparatus. The most popular distractor was diagram **B**.

4.2.1.4 Covalent bonding

Answer 31 · 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 32 · Examiner comments

June 2025 | 8462/1F | Original Q9

Question 9 (standard demand)

09.1 Students found this very difficult, with only one in ten scoring the mark. Of those who knew they needed to count the ions of each element, few could then appreciate that the ratio was 1:1 so the formula was therefore CaS. Many just wrote the number of Ca atoms and of S atoms from the diagram.

09.2 Two fifths of students were able to score at least one mark, and one in eight scored all four. Many described electrons transferring from calcium to sulfur, and of those, most realised that 2 electrons would be transferred. Students were less able to gain the final marking point for a correct description of the ions formed. Some students contradicted an answer in terms of electron transfer by also referring to sharing electrons.

09.3 Students were unable to recall many details about the structure and bonding of graphite, even with the diagram as a prompt. Many did describe layers of carbon atoms, but few mentioned the giant structure or covalent bonding. Many focussed on the use of graphite in pencils, which was not relevant in the context of the question. Most responses did not mention the number of bonds per atom, or the delocalised electrons, or the lack of bonds between layers. The hexagonal rings, if mentioned at all, were not described well, with whole layers or even individual atoms being described as hexagonal. Fewer than a quarter of students scored a single mark and very few scored all four.

09.4 Only one in six students scored the mark, despite the clear statement in the specification that the molecules do not have an overall electrical charge. Those who did gain credit usually mentioned there being no delocalised electrons. 'Free' is not the same as delocalised in this context and did not gain credit. Popular incorrect responses were that the molecules are too small or that the molecules cannot move.

09.5 Only a third of students gave the correct reason, with stronger or more covalent bonds to break both being almost as popular.