AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.4.3.4

Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Foundation**
Question groups	**19**
Available paper years	**2008–2024**

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.

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 01 · 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

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 01 · Mark scheme January 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY2F

Answer 02 · Mark scheme June 2008 | CHY2F | Original Q8 | Legacy

question	answers	extra information	mark
8(a)	(propanone) has a low(er) boiling point **or** (propanone) evaporates fast(er) owtte	**or** water has a high(er) boiling point **or** water evaporates slow(er) allow propane / solution / it allow evaporates at lower temperature **or** boils quicker ignore density / reactivity / melting point	1
8(b)(i)	0.29	ignore + **or** – ignore units	1
8(b)(ii)	any **two** sensible suggestions eg: • weighing error • (copper) lost during washing owtte • (copper) lost during electrolysis / reaction owtte • electrodes not completely dry • impurities in the electrode • copper falling off when removing electrode / copper from cell	 accept human error **or** inaccurate measurements allow different washing of electrodes ignore timing errors ignore 'fair test' ignore sludge ignore gases produced	2

Question 8 continued on next page…

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

COMPONENT NUMBER: CHY2F

COMPONENT NAME: Additional Science / Chemistry

STATUS: Final

DATE: June 2008

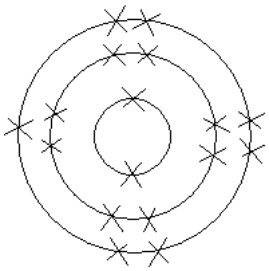
Question 8 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
8(c)	any **four** from: • impure copper is anode / positive (electrode) • pure copper is cathode / negative (electrode) • copper sulfate solution **or** any soluble copper salt in solution		4
	• copper loses electrons **or** copper is oxidised • copper forms positive ions / particles	as alternative to these two points $Cu \rightarrow Cu^{2+} + 2e^{-}$ = **2** marks	
	• copper gains electrons **or** copper reduced at <u>negative electrode</u> • copper attracts to / collects at <u>negative electrode</u>	**or** $Cu^{2+} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Cu$ at <u>negative electrode</u>	
	• sludge / impurities collect at the bottom owtte	allow sludge left behind **or** sludge left in solution **or** impurities separated from copper	
	• impurities not attracted to electrode	ignore get rid of impurities	
Total			**8**

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

Question 7

question	answers	extra information	mark
7(a)		accept dots / crosses / e must be drawn on diagram electrons do not need to be paired ignore brackets or + or −charges ignore 2,8,7	1
7(b)	(one) electron lost / given away / transferred from sodium / transferred to chlorine owtte	recognition that electrons are involved must be linked to electrons accept loses electron(s) for **2** marks NB loses 2 or more electrons gains **1** mark reference to sharing / covalent max **1** mark ignore charges on ions formed	1 1
7(c)(i)	any **one** from: • ions / atoms / they are / it is negatively charged / anions • opposite (charges) attract	 accept they are negative accept they are attracted or it is oppositely charged ignore opposite forces attract	1
7(c)(ii)	hydrogen	accept H_2 ignore H or H^+	1

Question 7 continues on next page

CHY2F

Question 7 continued

question	answers	extra information	mark
7(d)(i)	poisons released into environment (owtte)	accept any sensible idea of harm / harmful / poisons / poisonous / pollution / damaging do **not** accept answers such as global warming / ozone layer etc. ignore safety unless qualified	1
7(d)(ii)	any **one** sensible idea eg • loss of work / unemployment **or** company goes out of business • any adverse effect on local economy (owtte) • any adverse effect on paper production / cost of paper / cost of water (treatment) • chlorine (compounds) have been used (for many years) without causing harm owtte • only a tiny amount of chlorine is released so it would not cause harm	eg shops / house prices etc. allow less expensive to use chlorine or converse ignore uses of chlorine to treat drinking water unless qualified	1
7(d)(iii)	ideas related to bias	accept more reliable or valid or fair ignore more accurate / fair test	1
Total			**8**

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY2F | Original Q7 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Question 3

question	answers	extra information	mark
3(a)	diagram **A**		1
3(b)	the atoms can slide over each other. the atoms are in layers		1 1
3(c)(i)	sulfuric		1
3(c)(ii)	bubbles are produced the magnesium disappears		1 1
3(c)(iii)	crystallisation		1
Total			7

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

January 2011 | CHY2F | Original Q3 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(a)	the ions can <u>move</u> / <u>travel</u> / <u>flow</u> / are <u>free</u> **or** the ions <u>carry</u> the charge / current	accept particles / they for ions allow delocalised ions ignore delocalised / free electrons ignore references to collisions accept converse with reference to solid ignore ions carry electricity	1
6(b)	any **one** from: • because they are negative / anion • opposite charges / attract	allow Cl^- ignore chlorine	1
6(c)	13		1
6(d)(i)	reasonable attempt at straight line which misses the anomalous point	must touch all five crosses do **not** allow multiple lines	1
6(d)(ii)	40	ignore 2.2	1

Question 6 continues on the next page

CHY2F

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(d)(iii)	any **two** sensible errors from: • gas escapes • weighing error • error in measuring (volume / amount) of hydrogen • error in measuring (volume / amount) of water • incorrect concentration • timing error • change in voltage / current • change in temperature • recording / plotting error	ignore systematic / human / apparatus / zero /experimental / random / measurement / reading errors unless qualified allow NaCl not measured correctly allow error in measuring volume / scale for **1** mark if neither hydrogen or water mentioned allow NaCl not fully dissolved **or** spilled **or** impure allow faulty power supply	2
6(d)(iv)	any **one** from: • repeat the experiment • results compared with results from /other students / other groups / other laboratories / internet / literature. • results compared with another method	ignore 'do more tests'	1
6(d)(v)	increases owtte	allow directly proportional or positive correlation allow rate / it is faster / quicker	1
Total			**9**

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

January 2011 | CHY2F | Original Q6 | Legacy

CHY2F

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | CHY1F | Original Q7 | Legacy

Question 7

question	answers	extra information	mark
7(a)(i)	heat / high temperature / hot / vaporise	if (fractional) distillation / hydrogenation mentioned as the method = max 1 allow thermal decomposition ignore evaporation do **not** accept 'burns' do **not** accept temperature < 100	1
	catalyst **or** silica / alumina / porous pot **or** steam	ignore other named catalyst allow heat (the vapour) to a very high temperature / >800°C for **2** marks	1
7(a)(ii)	C_2H_3Cl	ignore attempts to balance equation	1
7(a)(iii)	single bonds between C – H, C – Cl **and** C – C	do **not** accept symbols outside the bracket	1
7(b)(i)	so that the amount of plasticiser / (sample of) PVC is the independent / only variable that affects the bending / flexibility of the samples	allow because different sizes would give different results accept because size is a control variable ignore references to reliability / precision etc	1
7(b)(ii)	to improve the reliability (of the investigation)	accept to calculate a mean accept to check for anomalous results **or** to check the range of results ignore accuracy / precision etc	1

Question 7 continues on the next page

Question 7 continued

question	answers	extra information	mark
7(b)(iii)	23	correct answer with or without working = **2** marks if answer is incorrect allow $\frac{22+23+24}{3}$ **or** 21 for **1** mark	2
7(b)(iv)	(PVC) sample had been stretched / used / tested in first three tests	accept higher temperature allow worn **or** become weaker ignore (human) error ignore more flexible / softer ignore intermolecular forces	1
7(c)	does not bend (easily / much) **or** it is not flexible **or** it is rigid	ignore non-biodegradable / low maintenance ignore sturdy / stronger / harder	1
Total			**10**

The AQA UMS Conversion Calculator is available on the Results statistics page of the AQA Website

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)(i)	cryolite		1
4(a)(ii)	lower the melting point of the aluminium oxide		1
4(b)(i)	opposite charges **or** oxide ions are negative attract		1 1
4(b)(ii)	carbon		1
4(b)(iii)	reacts with oxygen **or** forms carbon dioxide	accept burns	1
4(c)	**Structure mark**: **either** Al (atoms) in layers / rows **or** alloy (atoms) not in layers / rows **Sliding mark**: **either** so (Al layers) can slide **or** so (alloy) layers cannot slide	 accept Al (atoms) all the same size allow Al (atoms) in lines accept different sizes of atoms in alloy allow alloy (atoms) not in lines	1 1
Total			**8**

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy

CH2FP

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

January 2013 | CH2FP | Original Q8 | Legacy

question	answers	extra information	mark
8(a)(i)	because they are positively charged	accept they are positive / H^+ accept oppositely charged **or** opposites attract ignore they are attracted	1
8(a)(ii)	gains one / an electron	accept $H^+ + e^- \rightarrow H$ or multiples allow gains electrons	1
8(b)	3 bonding pairs 1 lone pair	 accept 2 non-bonding electrons on outer shell of nitrogen	1 1
8(c)(i)	hydroxide / OH^-	do **not** accept sodium hydroxide	1
8(c)(ii)	$H^+ + OH^- \rightarrow H_2O$	ignore state symbols ignore word equation	1

January 2013

CH2FP

question	answers	extra information	mark
8(d)	Marks awarded for this answer will be determined by the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) as well as the standard of the scientific response. Examiners should also refer to the information on page 5.		6

0 marks	**Level 1 (1-2 marks)**	**Level 2 (3-4 marks)**	**Level 3 (5-6 marks)**
No relevant content.	There are basic descriptions of advantages or disadvantages of the electrolysis cells.	There are clear descriptions of environmental or economic advantages or disadvantages of the electrolysis cells. Comparisons may be implied.	There are detailed descriptions of environmental and economic advantages and disadvantages, comparing the electrolysis cells.

examples of chemistry points made in the response:

Accept converse where appropriate.

- mercury cell is more expensive to construct
- mercury is recycled but membranes must be replaced
- mercury is toxic but membrane / polymer is not
- removing traces of mercury from waste is expensive
- mercury cell uses more electricity
- mercury cell produces chlorine that is purer
- mercury cell produces higher concentration / better quality of sodium hydroxide (solution)

Total			**12**

UMS conversion calculator www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | CH1FP | Original Q7 | Legacy

Question 7

question	answers	extra information	Mark
7(a)	any **two** from: • copper / ores are running out / harder to find • there are no / very small amounts of high-grade copper ores left • copper metal is in demand • copper is expensive • now economical to extract copper from low-grade ores	it = copper allow new methods of extraction e.g. bioleaching and phytomining allow high-grade ores are running out for **2** marks	2
7(b)(i)	large amounts / 98% of rock to dispose of as waste **or** waste rock takes up a lot of space	accept contains toxic (metal) compounds / bioleacher	1
7(b)(ii)	(copper sulfide reacts with oxygen to) produce sulfur dioxide / SO_2 that causes acid rain	allow (sulfur reacts with oxygen to) produce sulfur dioxide / SO_2 allow description of effects of acid rain **or** sulfur dioxide if no other mark awarded allow CO_2 produced which causes global warming **or** CO_2 produced by burning fuel or heating the furnace for **1** mark	1 1
7(b)(iii)	any **one** from: • large amounts of fuels / energy used (for the furnace and electrolysis) • (the extraction has) many steps / stages / processes • large amounts of ore / material have to be mined	allow large amounts of electricity needed ignore high temperature / electrolysis unqualified allow (extraction) is a long process / takes a lot of time allow ores contain a low percentage of copper	1

Question 7 continues on the next page

Question 7 continued

question	answers	extra information	Mark
7(b)(iv)	(copper ions move towards) the negative electrode / *cathode*		1
	because copper ions / Cu^{2+} are positively charged **or** are oppositely charged **or** copper ions need to gain electrons	allow because metal ions are positive **or** opposites attract	1
7(b)(v)	(growing) plants		1
Total			**9**

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 10 · Mark scheme June 2014 | CH1FP | Original Q5 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
5(a)(i)	economical		1	1 / 1.3.1a	A
5(a)(ii)	phytomining		1	1 / 1.3.1g	A
5(a)(iii)	carbon dioxide		1	1 / 1.3.1d/f	A
5(b)(i)	copper / Cu iron sulfate / $FeSO_4$		1 1	2 / 1.3.1h	E
5(b)(ii)	copper/ ions have a positive charge	it = copper ions allow copper ions have a different charge accept copper / ions are free to move accept to gain electrons accept copper / ions are attracted to the negative electrode **or** opposite charges attract	1	1 / 1.3.1h	E
5(c)	any **two** from: • copper ores are limited / running out • copper can be recycled • copper can be reused • copper is expensive • landfill sites are filling up • copper compounds are toxic	ignore not biodegradable or does not decay allow copper is running out allow copper is toxic	2	3 / 1.3.1j	E
Total			**8**		

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH1FP | Original Q5 | Legacy



4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

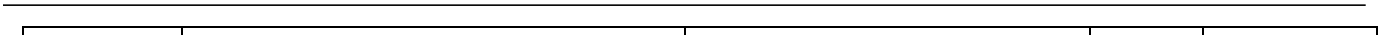
Answer 11 · Mark scheme June 2015 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy

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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 11 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy



4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 12 · Mark scheme June 2017 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
4(a)	58.5		1	AO2 2.5.1b
4(b)	water		1	AO2 2.3.3a
4(c)(i)	prevents loss of thermal energy	allow prevents heat loss	1	AO1 2.6.1
4(c)(ii)	13/thirteen		1	AO3 2.5.1
4(c)(iii)	temperature changes/results are all similar	accept no anomalous results allow they are all similar do **not** accept temperature	1	AO2 2.5.1
4(c)(iv)	exothermic	allow giving out energy	1	AO3 2.5.1
4(d)(i)	ions move	allow they move ignore free ions do not accept movement of electrons	1	AO1 2.7.1a 2.2.2b
4(d)(ii)	(chloride ions are) negative	accept opposites attract do **not** accept chlorine is negative	1	AO1 2.7.1c
4(d)(iii)	Tick (✓) by: soap		1	AO1 2.7.1i
4(d)(iv)	1 bonding pair of electrons 6 unbonded electrons on Cl	accept dot, cross, e or – or any combination	1 1	AO2 2.1

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

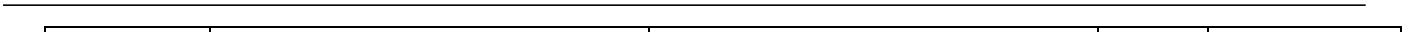
Answer 12 · Mark scheme

4(d)(v)	Tick (✓) by: $\frac{1}{36.5}$ x 100		1	**AO2** 2.3.3a
Total			**12**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | CH2FP | Original Q4 | Legacy



Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1F | Original Q4

The full source mark scheme begins on page 39. Follow original question 4 in that document.

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1F | Original Q4

Question 4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.1	(negative electrode) solid produced	allow the electrode changes colour ignore metal produced	1	AO3 4.4.3.4 RPA 3
	(positive electrode) bubbles / fizzing / effervescence	ignore gas produced	1	
04.2	potassium nitrate		1	AO3 4.4.3.4 RPA 3
	hydrogen is not a metal	allow hydrogen is a gas allow hydrogen is not a solid allow the products at both electrodes are gases allow the product at the negative electrode is not potassium allow potassium is more reactive than hydrogen	1	
04.3	(graphite) conducts (electricity)	allow (graphite) has delocalised / free electrons	1	AO1 4.2.3.2 4.4.3.4 RPA 3
	(graphite) is inert	allow (graphite) is unreactive	1	
04.4	the ions move towards the positive electrode		1	AO3
	the electrode attracts ions of the opposite charge	allow opposite charges attract	1	AO1 4.4.3.1
Total			**8**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1F | Original Q2

Question 2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	(zinc-carbon) cheap(est) (alkaline) long(est) lasting (nickel-metal hydride) rechargeable	 allow do not have to be thrown away	1 1 1	AO3 4.5.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.2	any **one** from: • (metal / alkaline waste) can be toxic / harmful / corrosive • (metal / alkaline waste) could cause pollution in landfill sites • recycling would save resources	 allow (batteries) can ignite / explode ignore dangerous	1	AO3 4.5.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.3	copper and iron		1	AO2 4.5.2.1

Question 2 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.4	any **one** from: • temperature (of electrolyte / solution) • concentration (of electrolyte / solution)	ignore type of electrode / electrolyte allow size / mass / length of electrode allow surface area of electrode allow distance between electrodes allow volume of solution / electrolyte	1	AO3 4.5.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.5	hydrogen oxygen	allow H_2 allow O_2	1 1	AO2 4.5.2.2

Total			8

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	by filtration		1	AO3 4.1.1.2

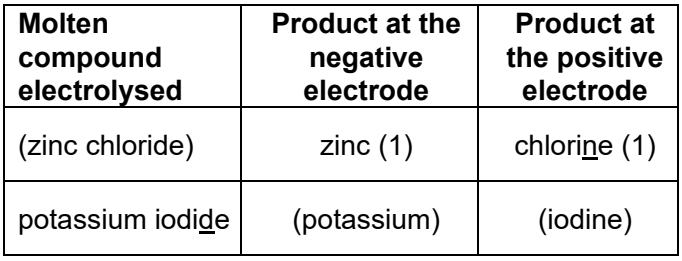
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.2	10 minutes per 2 cm on x-axis	allow 5 minutes per 1 cm on x-axis	1	AO2 4.4.3.4
	all points plotted correctly	allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square allow **1** mark for 3 or 4 points plotted correctly	2	
	line of best fit	allow line of best fit drawn using incorrect plots	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.3	0.14 (g)	allow ecf from question **07.2** allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square	1	AO2 4.4.3.4

Question 7 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.4	(copper sulfate solution) pink / orange / red / brown solid (sodium chloride solution) bubbles / effervescence / fizzing	 allow copper plating allow metal for solid if no other mark awarded allow **1** mark for copper **and** hydrogen	 1 1	AO2 4.4.1.2 4.4.3.4 RPA3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.5	toxic / poisonous (fumes)	allow harmful / corrosive (fumes) ignore dangerous / deadly / lethal	1	AO3 4.4.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.6	 allow **1** mark if zinc and chlorine the wrong way round		 2 1	AO2 4.4.3.2

Total			12

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	hydroxide ions		1	AO1 4.4.3.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	27 (cm^3)		1	AO2 4.4.3.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3	ions cannot move (freely in a solid)	allow ions are fixed in place (in a solid)	1	AO1 4.2.2.1 4.2.2.3 4.4.3.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4			1 1	AO2 4.4.3.2

Molten compound	Product at negative electrode	Product at positive electrode
Potassium iodide	Potassium	**Iodine**
Zinc bromide	**Zinc**	Bromine

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5	carbon is less reactive than sodium		1	AO1 4.4.1.2 4.4.1.3 4.4.3.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.6	(I)		1	AO1 4.2.2.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.7	(percentage atom economy =) $\frac{48}{80} \times 100$ = 60 (%)		1 1	AO2 4.3.3.2

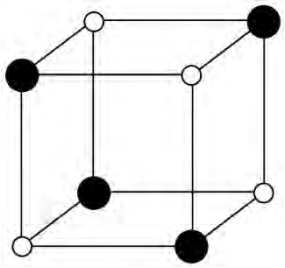
Total Question 8		**9**

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 18 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1		allow **1** mark for 2 Na^+ and 2 Cl^-	2	AO1 4.2.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.2	the ions can move (in the liquid)	do **not** accept reference to moving / delocalised electrons	1	AO1 4.4.3.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.3				AO2 4.4.3.2

Molten compound	Product at the negative electrode	Product at the positive electrode	
Magnesium bromide	Magnesium	**Bromine**	1
Potassium chloride	**Potassium**	Chlorine	1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.4	the mixture has a lower melting point than pure aluminium oxide		1	AO1 4.4.3.3

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 18 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.5	water		1	AO1 4.4.3.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.6	hydrogen is less reactive than sodium		1	AO2 4.4.3.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.7	the volume of hydrogen is twice the volume of oxygen	allow the volume of hydrogen is greater than the volume of oxygen allow the volume of hydrogen is (directly) proportional to the volume of oxygen	1	AO3 4.4.3.4

Total Question 7	9

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 19 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	6 (V)		1	AO2 4.5.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.2	sodium chloride solution		1	AO3 4.4.3.1 4.5.2.1

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 19 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.3	**Level 3:** The method would lead to the production of a valid outcome. The key steps are identified and logically sequenced.	5–6	AO3 4.5.2.1
	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 • set up a cell • **add an electrolyte** • into a beaker • **add two (different) metals** • **measure the voltage** • using a voltmeter • **repeat using different metals** • same volume of electrolyte • same concentration of electrolyte • same type of electrolyte • one metal kept the same each time		

Total Question 7	8

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

AQA

GCSE
CHEMISTRY

8462/1F - PAPER 1 FOUNDATION TIER

Mark scheme

8462

June 2018

Version/Stage: 1.0 Final

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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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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.

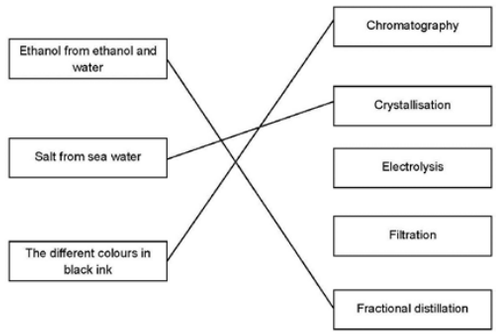
Indicative content in the mark scheme is provided as a guide for examiners. It is not intended to be exhaustive and you must credit other valid points. Students do **not** have to cover all of the points mentioned in the indicative content to reach the highest level of the mark scheme.

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.

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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)	allow the reactivity decreases from chlorine to iodine	1	AO1 4.1.2.6
	(because) chlorine displaces bromine and iodine	allow (because) chlorine has two reactions allow (because) neither bromine nor iodine can displace chlorine	1	AO3 4.1.2.6
	(and) bromine displaces iodine **or** iodine does not react	allow (and) bromine has one reaction **or** iodine has no reactions allow (and) iodine cannot displace bromine	1	AO3 4.1.2.6
02.5	80		1	AO2 4.3.1.2

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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** **anode** zinc (1) 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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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

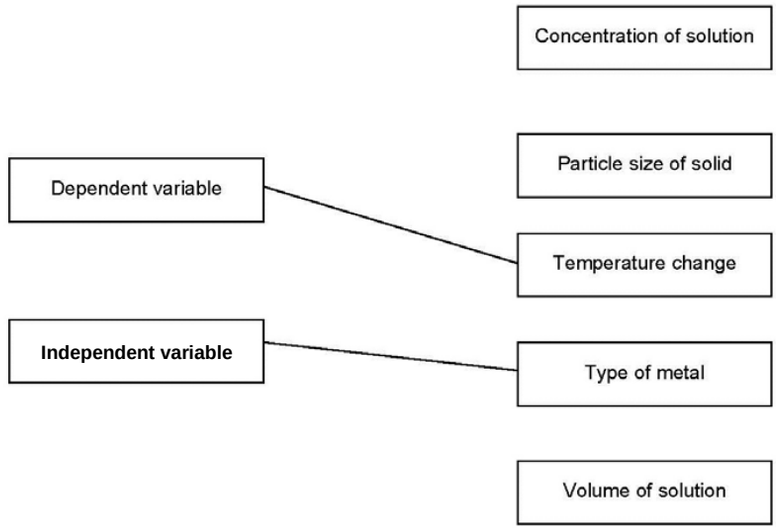
4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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

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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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**

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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**	

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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

<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 colspan="2">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 colspan="2"></td><td>11</td></tr>
</table>

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 13 · Examiner comments — June 2018 | 8462/1F | Original Q4

Question 4 (low and standard demand)

04.1 72% of students could read off the volume correctly, although 4.4 cm^3 was a popular wrong answer. Some students seem unfamiliar with 'upside down' apparatus.

04.2 This question was answered well, with 70% of students recognising a straight line through the origin as showing proportionality. The idea that neither line showed proportionality was more popular than that both showed proportionality.

04.3 77% of students recognised that both lines showed a positive correlation.

04.4 All four statements about graphite were true and 70% of students could pick out 'delocalised electrons' as the reason for graphite's electrical conductivity.

Answer 13 · Examiner comments — June 2018 | 8462/1F | Original Q4

04.5 Students found this question tough. Full marks were very rare, although 27% of students did achieve three marks.

Most suggested potassium, rather than hydrogen, would be a product from the electrolysis of potassium bromide solution. Partial credit was given for the correct products at the opposite electrodes. As a result many students achieved a mark for having zinc and chlorine the wrong way round.

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

Answer 17 · Examiner comments — June 2022 | 8462/1F | Original Q8

Question 8 (Low demand)

08.1 Fewer than 40% of students recognised the hydroxide ion as the source of oxygen; the most popular distractor was hydrogen ions.

08.2 Most students could read the volume of gas in the inverted measuring cylinder. Some tried to read the scale upwards and gave a response of 33 cm^3.

08.3 Only about 20% of students were awarded the mark. Students needed to explain why ionic solids do not conduct, rather than why solutions or molten compounds do conduct. Even when directed to answer in terms of ions, some students still thought that electrons were somehow involved.

08.4 This was well answered, with the great majority of students naming both correct products.

08.5 Over a half of students gave the correct reason in terms of the relative reactivity of carbon and sodium. The electrical conductivity of carbon was a popular distractor.

08.6 About a half of students gave (aq) as the state symbol for a molten substance.
Only about 30% gave the correct answer (l).

08.7 Correct answers to this calculation were given by the great majority of students.

Answer 18 · Examiner comments — June 2023 | 8462/1F | Original Q7

Question 7 (low and standard demand)

07.1 This question was answered by fewer than half of the students showing that many students do not read the entire question, but focus only on the sentence above an answer line. As there was no answer line, the instruction to complete Figure 8 was missed. Of those who did respond, most scored at least one mark.

Most of those who did answer realised that two of each ion should be drawn, but many placed the ions directly under the same type of ion, instead of in the alternate positions.

07.2 This standard demand question proved to be difficult even with the prompt to refer to ions. There were few references to electrons, showing that students had taken note of this prompt; however, the idea that ions can move in the liquid state was not given by many students.

07.3 This question was well answered, with more than three quarters of students scoring both marks. Potassium was nearly always correct, but bromine was often incorrectly described as bromide.

07.4 Only a half of the students knew that the mixture has a lower melting point than pure aluminium oxide, with the majority of the rest opting for a higher melting point.

4.4.3.4 Electrolysis of aqueous solutions

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07.5 Only a half of students knew that the source of the hydrogen and oxygen is water. Most of the other chose sulfate ions.

07.6 Again, roughly a half of students knew the reason for the production of hydrogen rather than sodium, with nearly as many choosing the incorrect statement that hydrogen is more reactive than sodium.

07.7 Some students were not specific enough about the relationship of the volumes, merely stating that as one increased, so did the other. However, many gave excellent descriptions of the volume of hydrogen being twice that of oxygen. Just over a half of students scored the mark.

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Question 7 (low and standard demand)

07.1 The great majority of students realised that the voltage would be 4 times that of a single cell.

07.2 Two thirds of students identified sodium chloride solution as the correct substance to be an electrolyte. The two distractors, pure water and solid lead bromide, were equally popular.

07.3 Very few students managed to reach Level 3, which required mention of a control variable to make the outcome valid. However, two fifths of students managed to reach level 2 by mentioning some key steps in the procedure. Nearly one quarter of students did not attempt the question even though a diagram of a cell had been provided as a prompt.

There was much confusion with electrolysis, and with 'watching to see if there is a reaction.' Many students thought that a voltmeter produces a voltage rather than measuring it. Many students did not understand what a chemical cell is, despite the diagram, and many used electrodes of the same metal, or even just one electrode. Some referred to a power pack, not realising that the cell itself is the source of the voltage.