AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.1.2.6

Group 7

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**18**
Available paper years	**2007–2025**

Using this booklet

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

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

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

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

November 2007 | CHY1A | Original Q6 | Legacy

Six	**3**	**3**	**2**	**3**

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

January 2008 | CHY1H | Original Q3 | Legacy

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

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

January 2008 | CHY3H | Original Q4 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 32. Follow original question 4 in that document.

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

March 2010 | CHY1AP | Original Q1 | Legacy

One	**A**	Anaesthetic **A**	**2**
	B	Anaesthetic **B**	**4**
	C	Anaesthetic **C**	**3**
	D	Anaesthetic **D**	**1**

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

March 2010 | CHY1BP | Original Q9 | Legacy

Nine	**3**	**2**	**2**	**2**

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

November 2010 | CHY1AP | Original Q9 | Legacy

Nine	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)(i)	a correct link between any two named elements eg same group / column same properties / number of outer electrons	allow some link between any two elements in the same group (in both Newlands' and **or** the modern periodic table)	1
4(a)(ii)	any **two** from: • elements still being discovered **or** no gaps for undiscovered elements • some boxes have 2 elements in them • metals and non-metals in same column / mixed up • pattern for first 16 or so elements only	ignore statements about lack of evidence / proof accept some elements in same column have different properties. allow any sensible suggestion about misplaced elements eg copper in group 1 elements allow did not work for all elements	2
4(b)(i)	Cl > Br > I **or** I < Br < Cl Cl has 2 reactions, Br has 1 reaction, I doesn't react	accept reactivity / it decreases down the group owtte allow Cl has most / more reactions and I has least / less reactions (must be clear about where Br fits in)	1 1

Question 4 continues on the next page

CHY3H

Question 4 contd

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(b)(ii)	Br_2	allow multiples / fractions if correctly completed and balanced	1
4(b)(iii)	(they) have 7 outer electrons	allow (they) have 7 electrons in highest occupied (energy) level / shells / rings	1
4(c)	down group (atom / elements) bigger **or** outer electrons (level / shell / ring) further from nucleus / centre **or** more shells / level / rings	outer / last / final must be mentioned once in correct context, otherwise max **2** marks comparative required on all three points accept converse ie less reactive up group ignore more electrons do **not** accept more outer shells for this mark	1
	force(s) / attraction(s) are weaker **or** more shielding **or** attracts less	allow electron(s) attracted less easily allow electron(s) less under influence (of nucleus) do **not** accept magnetic / gravitational / intermolecular forces	1
	electron(s) lost more easily	allow electron(s) more likely to be lost allow easier to give away	1
Total			**10**

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

January 2011 | CHY3H | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY3H

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

March 2011 | CHY1AP | Original Q9 | Legacy

Nine	**3**	**2**	**1**	**4**

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

Question 3

question	answers	extra information	mark
3(a)	Group O / 8 **or** noble / rare / inert gases	accept transition elements / metals apply list principle	1
3(b)	(chemically) similar elements (now) in the same group / column	accept iodine has properties of Group 7 / halogens **or** iodine does not have group 6 properties **or** converse for tellurium ignore 'it fits the pattern' or any reference to proton / atomic numbers / atomic structure	1
3(c)	any **three** from: • (some) boxes had <u>two</u> elements • Group 1: copper / silver unreactive (not like the others) • there are non-metals and metals in the same group / box • Mendeleev left spaces / gaps • Medeleev reversed the order (for some elements)	ignore not enough evidence / proof **or** Mendeleev not respected allow <u>two</u> correctly identified elements together (in the same box) allow copper / silver not alkali metals / Group 1 accept named examples accept (some chemists thought) there were no more elements to discover	3

Question 3 continues on the next page

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Question 3 continued

question	answers	extra information	mark
3(d)	any **two** from: • elements arranged in proton / atomic number order • group: elements in same group / column have same number of outer electrons • elements in same period / row have same number of (electron) shells / energy levels	ignore mass number / atomic weight / neutrons throughout allow number of protons / electrons increases across period allow number of (electron) shells / energy level increase down group allow electron rings allow orbits	2
Total			**7**

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | CHY3H | Original Q3 | Legacy

CHY3H

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
1(a)(i)	protons	allow “protons or electrons”, but do not allow “protons and electrons”	1	1 / 1.1.1g
1(a)(ii)	protons plus/and neutrons		1	1 / 1.1.1g
1(b)	(because the relative electrical charges are) –(1) for an electron and +(1) for a proton and the number of electrons is equal to the number of protons	allow electrons are negative and protons are positive if no other mark awarded, allow 1 mark for the charges cancel out	1 1	1 / 1.1.1d/e
1(c)	(the electronic structure of) fluorine is 2,7 and chlorine is 2,8,7 (so fluorine and chlorine are in the same group) because they have the same number of or 7 electrons in their highest energy level or outer shell	allow diagrams for the first marking point if no other mark awarded, allow 1 mark for have the same/similar properties	1 1	1+2 / 1.1.1a / 1.1.2a
1(d)	S		1	2 / 1.1.1b
1(e)(i)	ions		1	1 / 1.1.3a
1(e)(ii)	molecules		1	1 / 1.1.3a
Total			9	

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH1HP | Original Q1 | Legacy



4.1.2.6 Group 7

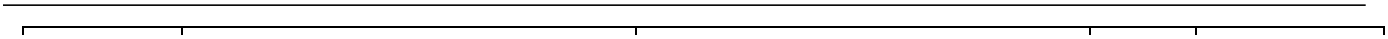
Answer 11 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
3(a)	increase		1	**AO1** 3.1.3.f
3(b)(i)	Na^+ **and** Br^-	both required	1	**AO1** 3.1.3.a/e
3(b)(ii)	sodium chloride	allow NaCl do **not** allow sodium chlorine	1	**AO2** 3.1.3.g
3(b)(iii)	chlorine is more reactive than bromine	allow converse argument allow symbols Cl, Cl_2, Br and Br_2 allow chlorine / it is more reactive. do **not** allow chloride **or** bromide	1	**AO1** 3.1.3.g
3(b)(iv)	fluorine	allow F / F_2. do **not** allow fluoride.	1	**AO2** 3.1.3.g
Total			**5**	

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 11 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH3HP | Original Q3 | Legacy



4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

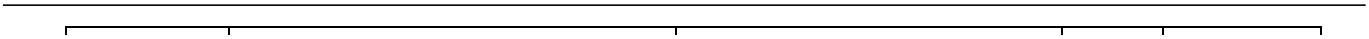
June 2016 | CH3HP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / SpecRef
3(a)(i)	atomic weights	allow atomic masses	1	AO1 3.1.1a
3(a)(ii)	proton	allow proton number	1	AO1 3.1.2a
3(b)(i)	F/fluorine	allow F_2	1	AO3 3.1.3a,b,f
3(b)(ii)	any **one** from: • copper has a higher density • copper is stronger • copper is harder • copper is less reactive	allow converse for potassium allow named property ignore colour, conductivity, melting point and boiling point	1	AO1 3.1.3c
3(b)(iii)	relative distance from nucleus relative attraction to nucleus relative ease of gain or loss of electron opposite explanation of ease of gain or loss of electron for other group	max 3 marks if 'outer' not mentioned allow more / fewer energy levels / shells or larger / smaller atom allow more / less shielding	1 1 1 1	2AO1 / 1AO2 / 1AO3 3.1.3b,f,h
Total			8	

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | CH3HP | Original Q3 | Legacy

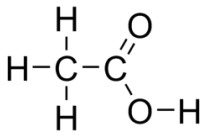


4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | CH3HP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
3(a)(i)	any **one** from: • for undiscovered elements • so elements with similar properties were in same column / group	ignore so they fit the pattern	1	**AO1** 3.1.1b
3(a)(ii)	any **one** from: • they have different properties from elements above them • they are (transition) metals .	ignore electronic configuration ignore they did not fit the pattern allow transition elements	1	**AO1** 3.1.1a,b
3(b)(i)	7 electrons in outer shell / highest energy level	ignore gain of 1 electron	1	**AO2** 3.1.2b
3(b)(ii)	for bromine: outer shell closer to nucleus stronger force of attraction (to nucleus) electron more easily gained to outer shell	'outer' must be mentioned once for 3 marks. comparatives required. ignore references to bromide / iodide allow converse for iodine allow fewer shells allow smaller atom allow less shielding	1 1 1	**AO1** **AO2** 3.1.3g,h

3(c)(i)	yellow precipitate	allow yellow or dark yellow or light yellow or pale yellow allow dark yellow or light yellow or pale yellow precipitate allow dark yellow or light yellow or pale yellow ppt allow dark yellow or light yellow or pale yellow solid do **not** allow yellow solution	1	**AO1** 3.4.1e
3(c)(ii)	green precipitate	allow green or dark green or light green or pale green or dirty green allow dark green or light green or pale green or dirty green precipitate allow dark green or light green or pale green or dirty green ppt allow dark green or light green or pale green or dirty green solid do **not** allow green solution	1	**AO1** 3.4.1b
3(d)	one colour obscures the other	allow colours mix / blend allow only one colour seen	1	**AO3** 3.4.1a
3(e)(i)		allow -OH in the structure without the -O-H bond shown	1	**AO1** 3.6.2a

4.1.2.6 Group 7

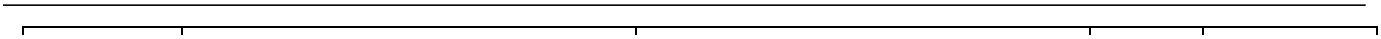
Answer 13 · Mark scheme

3(e)(ii)	weak acid (because) ethanoic acid is not fully ionised / dissociated	allow converse for hydrochloric acid allow (the solution) has a lower concentration of hydrogen ions allow (produces) fewer hydrogen ions. do **not** allow ionising	1 1	**AO3** 3.6.2a,b
Total			**12**	

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | CH3HP | Original Q3 | Legacy



4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	potassium chloride **and** iodine	either order allow KCl for potassium chloride and I_2 for iodine	1	AO1 4.1.2.6
07.2		allow converse statements allow energy levels for shells throughout		AO1 4.1.2.6
	(chlorine's) outer electrons / shell closer to the nucleus	allow chlorine has fewer shells allow chlorine atom is smaller than iodine atom ignore chlorine has fewer outer shells	1	
	(so) the chlorine nucleus has greater attraction for outer electrons / shell	allow chlorine has less shielding do **not** accept incorrect types of attraction	1	
	(so) chlorine gains an electron more easily	**maxf 2** marks can be awarded if the answer refers to chloride / iodide instead of chlorine / iodine	1	
07.3	hydrogen chloride is made of small molecules	allow hydrogen chloride is simple molecular	1	AO1 4.1.2.6 4.2.1.4
	(so hydrogen chloride) has weak intermolecular forces	do **not** accept reference to bonds breaking unless applied to intermolecular bonds	1	4.2.2.4
	(intermolecular forces) require little energy to overcome		1	

4.1.2.6 Group 7

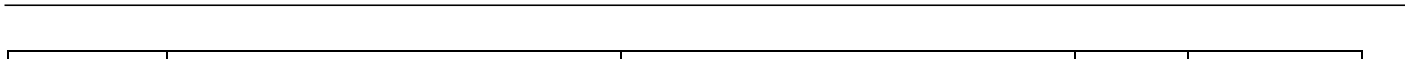
Answer 14 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.4		an answer of 290 (kJ/mol) scores **4** marks an answer of 188 (kJ/mol) scores **3** marks an incorrect answer for one step does **not** prevent allocation of marks for subsequent steps		AO2 4.5.1.3
	(bonds broken = 4(412) + 193 =)1841		1	
	(bonds formed = 3(412) + 366 + **X** =) 1602 + **X**		1	
	−51 = 1841 − (1602 + **X**)	allow use of incorrectly calculated values of bonds broken and / or bonds formed from steps 1 and 2 for steps 3 and 4	1	
	(X =) 290 (kJ/mol)	allow a correctly calculated answer from use of −51 = bonds formed – bonds broken	1	
	OR alternative method ignoring the 3 unchanged C–H bonds (412 + 193 =) 605 (1) 366 + **X** (1) −51 = 605 − (366 + **X**) (1) (**X** =) 290 (kJ/mol) (1)			
Total			**11**	

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q7



4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q1

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	any **one** from: • so elements / iodine / tellurium were in groups with similar properties • iodine has similar properties to Br / Cl / F / Group 7 • iodine has different properties to Se / S / O / Group 6	ignore reference to atomic structure ignore references to Cr, Mn and Mo allow corresponding argument in terms of tellurium	1	AO1 4.1.2.2
01.2	Mendeleev had predicted properties of missing elements elements were discovered (that filled the spaces / gaps) properties (of these elements) matched Mendeleev's predictions	ignore reference to atomic structure allow atomic weights (of these elements) fitted in the spaces / gaps if no other mark awarded, allow **1** mark for in previous versions of the periodic table the pattern of similar properties broke down	1 1 1	AO1 4.1.2.2
01.3	relative atomic mass		1	AO1 4.1.1.6
01.4	(increasing) atomic / proton number	ignore (increasing) electron number do **not** accept relative atomic / proton number	1	AO1 4.1.2.1
01.5	(formula) At_2 (state) solid	ignore incorrect state symbol allow (s) ignore s	1 1	AO1 4.1.2.6

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

01.6	any **two** from: • flame • (white) solid forms • colour of gas / chlorine disappears / fades	allow burns allow (white) smoke forms	2	AO1 4.1.2.5
Total			**10**	

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	liquid gas		1	AO2 4.2.2.1
08.2	(boiling point) increases (down the table / group) (because) the relative formula / molecular mass increases **or** (because) the size of the molecule increases (so) the intermolecular forces increase (in strength) (so) more energy is needed to overcome the intermolecular forces	 allow (so) the forces between molecules increase (in strength) allow (so) more energy is needed to separate the molecules do **not** accept a reference to breaking bonds unless specifically between molecules	1 1 1 1	AO1 4.1.2.6 4.2.2.1 4.2.2.4
08.3	boiling point is a bulk property	allow boiling point is related to intermolecular forces (so more than one molecule is involved)	1	AO1 4.2.2.1
08.4	the gas / halogen is toxic	allow the gas / halogen is poisonous / harmful allow to prevent inhalation of the gas / halogen ignore deadly / lethal	1	AO3 4.1.2.6

Question 8 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5	(going down the group) the outer electrons / shell become further from the nucleus	allow energy level for shell throughout allow the atoms become larger allow the number of shells increases ignore the number of outer shells increases	1	AO1 4.1.2.6
	(so) the nucleus has less attraction for the outer electrons / shell	allow (so) the nucleus has less attraction for the incoming electron allow (so) increased shielding between the nucleus and the outer electrons / shell allow (so) increased shielding between the nucleus and the incoming electron	1	
	(so) an electron is gained less easily		1	

Question 8 continued

08.6	4.48 (g iron) **and** 8.52 (g chlorine) (moles Fe = $\frac{4.48}{56}$ =) 0.08 (moles Cl = $\frac{8.52}{35.5}$ =) 0.24 (Fe : Cl = 0.08 : 0.24 =) 1 : 3 $2\ Fe + 3\ Cl_2 \rightarrow 2\ FeCl_3$	 allow correct calculation using incorrectly calculated mass of iron allow correct calculation using incorrectly calculated mass of chlorine allow (moles Cl_2 = $\frac{8.52}{71}$ =) 0.12 allow correct calculation using incorrectly calculated moles of iron and / or chlorine allow multiples / fractions allow a correctly balanced equation including Fe and Cl_2 from an incorrect ratio of Fe : Cl allow **1** mark for Fe **and** Cl_2 (reactants) **and** $FeCl_3$ (product) **or** allow **1** mark for Fe **and** Cl_2 (reactants) **and** a formula for iron chloride correctly derived from an incorrect ratio of Fe : Cl (product)	1 1 1 1 2	AO2 4.1.1.1 4.1.2.6 4.3.2.3

Total			**16**

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2

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

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

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

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

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

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.5	3.4 (mg/cm^3)	allow a value in the range 3.0 to 3.8 (mg/cm^3)	1	AO3 4.1.2.4

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

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

Total Question 2	**11**

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 18 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

Question 4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.1	–34 °C	allow a value in the range –70 to –20 °C	1	AO3 4.1.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.2	solid	allow (s)	1	AO3 4.1.2.6 4.2.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.3	7		1	AO1 4.1.2.1 4.1.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.4	HAt		1	AO2 4.1.2.1 4.1.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.5		allow energy level for shell		
	reactivity decreases (going down the group)		1	AO1 4.1.2.6
	(because) the outer shell / electrons become further from the nucleus	allow (because) the atoms become larger allow (because) the atoms have more shells	1	
	(so) there is less (electrostatic) attraction between the nucleus and the outer electron(s)	allow (so) there is more shielding between the outer electron(s) and the nucleus	1	
	(so) gaining an electron is more difficult		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.6	$Br_2 + 2\,KI \longrightarrow I_2 + 2\,KBr$	allow multiples allow **1** mark for Br_2 **and** I_2 allow **1** mark for KI **and** KBr ignore state symbols	3	AO2 4.1.1.1 4.1.2.6

Total Question 4	11

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Version 1.0: 0108

ASSESSMENT and QUALIFICATIONS ALLIANCE

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Chemistry 4421

CHY3H Unit 3 Chemistry

Mark Scheme

2008 examination – January series

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' 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 to download from the AQA Website: www.aqa.org.uk

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4.1.2.6 Group 7

MARK SCHEME

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 and help to delineate what is acceptable or not worthy of credit or, in discursive answers, to give an overview of the area in which a mark or marks may be awarded.

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

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 lines 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.)

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which candidates 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.

4.1.2.6 Group 7

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

Candidate	Response	Marks awarded
1	4,8	0
2	green, 5	0
3	red*, 5	1
4	red*, 8	0

Example 2: Name two planets in the solar system. (2 marks)

Candidate	Response	Marks awarded
1	Pluto, Mars, Moon	1
2	Pluto, Sun, Mars, Moon	0

3.2 Use of chemical symbols / formulae

If a candidate 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

Full marks can be given for a correct numerical answer, as shown in the column 'answers', without any working shown.

However if the answer is incorrect, mark(s) can be gained by correct substitution / working and this is shown in the 'extra information' column;

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 are 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 e.c.f. 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 Unexpected Correct Answers not in the Mark Scheme

The Examiner should use professional judgement to award credit where a candidate has given an unexpected correct answer which is not covered by the mark scheme. The Examiner should consult with the Team Leader to confirm the judgement. The Team Leader should pass this answer on to the Principal Examiner with a view to informing all examiners.

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	either: calculations: all correct (ethanol = 6, methanol = 3, peanut oil = 10, vegetable oil = 15) **or** implication of correct calculation (vegetable oil) gives largest temperature / heat increase <u>per gram</u> (owtte)	ignore repetition of data from table unqualified allow 'produced most heat in proportion to the fuel used' owtte for **1** mark	2
(b)	any **one** from: • smoke • soot • carbon • carbon monoxide • carbon dioxide • global warming / climate change / greenhouse gases • (air) pollution • harmful / poisonous scrub / wash the gases owtte	owtte ignore references to crops/food filter / remove (gases / fumes / appropriate named substance) owtte (add extra oxygen) can burn more efficiently owtte use a cleaner fuel owtte plant more trees or similar linked to CO_2 any sensible answer 'don't burn so much fuel' insufficient alone ignore extractor fans / air conditioning	1 1

continued…

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 1 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(c)(i)	A		1
(c)(ii)	B		1
total			6

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	smooth curve through all points over full range finishing between 6.4 and 5.4 at 50°C		1
(a)(ii)	5.6 **or** from their graph		1
(a)(iii)	10 – 5.6 = 4.4	their reading at 15ºC – their (a)(ii) answer from their figures	1 1
(a)(iv)	Yes: the value at 15°C because have values either side owtte **or** No: more error in a smaller number owtte	accept converse answers based on 50°C accept converse answers based on 50°C	1
(b)(i)	balanced view / involving people / debate / gather information / democracy	owtte any sensible answer ignore 'trout might die'	1
(b)(ii)	undue weight / bias may be given to high status and very experienced people **or** less experienced/lower status may reduce status of enquiry	owtte any sensible answer	1

continued…

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 2 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(b)(iii)	(A) Management: any **one** from: • small amounts may be fine • can cope for short periods • could spread throughout the day • fish still getting (enough) oxygen • rate of photosynthesis could be increased to balance loss of oxygen • water will cool down (quickly)	any sensible answer	1
	(B) Council: any **one** from: • any rise in temperature would reduce / affect (dissolved) oxygen • water will still be too hot • trout will die above 26°C	any sensible answer	1
total			9

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 3

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	scale – (solid) formed when <u>heat</u> decomposes dissolved calcium / magnesium compounds owtte	allow: scale is formed when <u>hard</u> water is heated / boiled (to leave magnesium / calcium compounds)	1
	scale is calcium carbonate / $CaCO_3$ or magnesium carbonate / $MgCO_3$	ignore evaporate	
	scum – (ppt) formed when soap reacts with calcium / magnesium (ions) owtte	allow scum is formed when <u>hard</u> water reacts with soap	1
	scum is calcium stearate / magnesium stearate		
(b)	calcium (ions) / Ca^{2+} / magnesium (ions) / Mg^{2+}		1
	replaced by hydrogen ions / H^+ / sodium ions / Na^+		1
total			4

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	undiscovered elements owtte		1
(a)(ii)	they would be in the wrong group / have the wrong / different properties / don't fit the pattern owtte	allow atomic weights may have been wrong	1
(b)(i)	any **three** from: • elements arranged in proton / atomic number order • group: elements in the same group / column have same number of outer electrons owtte • group: number of shells increase down group • period: elements in the same period / row have the same number of shells / energy levels • period: number of protons / electrons increase across period • atomic number: link of atomic number to number of protons • atomic number gives number of electrons	ignore mass number / atomic weight / neutrons throughout	3
(b)(ii)	it would mean splitting a proton / electron **or** implication of splitting proton / electron		1

continued…

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 4 continued…

(c)		must be a comparison	
	(outer) electron closer (to nucleus)	accept fewer (electron) shells / energy levels fluorine is the smaller/est	1
	stronger/est attraction (to nucleus) owtte **or** less screening (by inner electrons)	do **not** allow magnetic / intermolecular forces	1
	electron gained more easily	need some indication of <u>outer</u> electron shell somewhere in explanation otherwise max of **2** marks	1
total			9

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 5

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)		**must** be description of a titration no titration = no marks	
	NaOH in <u>burette</u>	do **not** accept biuret etc	1
	add NaOH until (indicator) changes colour	if specific colour change mentioned, must be correct – colourless to pink / red **or** 'goes pink / red' do **not** accept 'clear' for colourless	1
	note (burette) volume used **or** final reading	accept 'work out the volume'	1
	one other point: eg repeat	accept: (white) tile **or** add dropwise / slowly **or** white background **or** swirling / mix **or** read meniscus at eye level **or** wash apparatus	1
(b)	0.054	for **2** marks (0.1 × 13.5)/25 for **1** mark	2
(c)	don't know – insufficient evidence to decide **or** depends on whether acid level is considered safe or unsafe	owtte any sensible answer	1
	yes, safe – acid level low / weak acids / low compared with stomach acid	owtte any sensible answer	
	no, unsafe – acid level (too) high / other substances or bacteria may be present / insufficient evidence to decide	owtte any sensible answer	

continued…

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 5 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(d)	(methyl orange) would have changed colour (well) before the end-point / pH7 / neutral	owtte	1
	weak acid present	weak acid-strong base (titration) allow methyl orange used for strong acid-weak base titration	1
total			9

4.1.2.6 Group 7

CHY3H

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)		each correct test and one result = **1** mark	
		one other result for any test = **1 mark** this mark can only be awarded <u>once</u>	1
	Na_2CO_3: HCl → (odourless) gas (1) CO_2 / carbon dioxide (1)		1
	NaCl: $AgNO_3$ → white ppt (1) silver chloride (1)		1
	$NaNO_3$: Al + NaOH → pungent /sharp smell / choking gas (1) NH_3 / ammonia (1)		1
	Na_2SO_4: $BaCl_2$ → white ppt (1) barium sulfate (1)		1
(a)(ii)	all would give a <u>yellow</u> / <u>yellow-orange</u> (flame) / <u>same</u> coloured (flame) / <u>same</u> results **or** they all contain <u>sodium</u> owtte	allow <u>orange</u> (flame)	1
(b)	any **two** from: • fast / quick or comment about speed • small amounts • sensitive / accurate • ease of automation • sample not used up • reliable / efficient • can be left to run / continuous analysis	ignore cost ignore human error accept any valid answer accept operators do not need <u>chemical</u> skills ignore results can be saved	2
total			8

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 14 · Examiner comments

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q7

Question 7 (standard / high and high demand)

07.1 This question was answered well by the majority of students, with 68% giving a correct answer. The most common error was to give only one of the products, usually potassium chloride.

07.2 Although this historically is a well-known area of the specification, lack of precision in answers cost some students greatly. 16% of students achieved all three marks, with 72% gaining some credit.

The electrons are not (all) closer to the nucleus in chlorine – the **outer** electrons are. The relevant force of attraction is between the **outer** electrons and the **nucleus**, and is not intermolecular, magnetic or gravitational. Attracting another electron is not the same as **gaining** it.

07.3 This was another difficult question with 51% of students gaining no marks at all. 9% of students achieved all three. Few described the structure correctly. 'Simple covalent' only refers to the bonding; the structure needed to be described as small molecules, as in the specification, or as simple molecular (to distinguish it from large molecules or giant structures).

Some answers started well, referring to weak intermolecular forces, but then moved into talking about breaking bonds, for example 'it has weak intermolecular forces so little energy is needed to break the bonds'. Again, language was an issue, with statements such as 'hydrogen chloride is a covalent bond' failing to gain any credit. Some students stated that hydrogen chloride is ionic (but often then referred to intermolecular forces), or did not refer to hydrogen chloride at all, instead couching their answer in terms of hydrogen and chlorine.

07.4 This question was answered well, with 73% students achieving three or four marks.

It was often difficult to give partial credit as working was difficult to follow. Many students worked out the sum of the bonds broken as 1841 kJ/mol, but then said that the sum of the bonds made was 1602 kJ/mol rather than (1602 + X) kJ/mol. Many students then calculated their final answer based on energy change = bonds made – bonds broken, rather than the other way round.

Some students missed out on putting brackets around their (1602 + X) in their overall expression, making it incorrect. A decent number divided the bond enthalpies by 2 then subtracted one from another to get the difference, which they then added to another halved bond energy. This perhaps shows a misconception that the bond energy is associated with an atom rather than a bond.

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 15 · Examiner comments

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q1

Question 1 (standard demand)

01.1 Approximately 40% of students scored this mark which required an appropriate reference to the properties of tellurium and/or iodine.

Most correct answers referred to iodine having similar properties to other Group 7 elements.

References to atomic structure were quite common, for example, iodine has 7 electrons in the outer shell so fits in Group 7. This was not creditworthy since this detail of atomic structure would not have been known by Mendeleev.

01.2 Students found this question difficult with almost half scoring 0 marks.

The most commonly awarded mark was for the idea that the missing elements were eventually discovered.

The ideas that Mendeleev predicted the properties of the missing elements and that when discovered the actual properties matched his predictions were not often stated.

01.3 Approximately three-quarters of students correctly identified relative atomic mass as the modern name for atomic weight.

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 15 · Examiner comments

01.4 Approximately 70% of students scored this mark with the most common response being 'atomic number'.

The most common responses seen that were not credited:

- reactivity
- relative atomic mass
- mass
- number of electrons in the outer shell.

01.5 Almost 70% of students scored at least 1 mark.

To gain the mark for the formula, At_2, the correct casing for the letters needed to be used; also, a subscript for the number. This mark was scored more often than the mark for the state.

01.6 Students found this question difficult and were often unable to give the observations associated with the reaction between sodium and chlorine.

The few students that gained credit mostly did so for the formation of a solid or for a flame.

Many students gave observations that would be expected from adding sodium to water, for example, a vigorous reaction or fizzing.

Other common non-scoring responses referred to:

- a precipitate being formed
- salt or sodium chloride being produced
- transfer of electrons.

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 16 · Examiner comments

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question 8 (standard, standard / high and high demand)

08.1 The majority scored the mark, but many thought bromine is a solid at 0 ºC.

08.2 This question was not well answered. Most students stated that the boiling point increased going down the group, although some were evidently confused by the negative values in the table and stated the opposite trend. However, many students then confused boiling point with reactivity and tried to explain the trend using forces within the atom rather than forces between molecules. Students should refer to intermolecular forces rather than intermolecular bonds, to avoid any confusion about which 'bonds' they are referring to in terms of breaking them to make the substance change state.

08.3 This was very poorly answered. The idea of a bulk property was very rarely seen. There was considerable confusion between the terms atom and molecule, with many stating that bromine was diatomic so there are always two molecules. The best answers referred to the fact that boiling point relates to intermolecular forces, which cannot exist if there is only one molecule.

08.4 Many students realised that the fume cupboard would prevent inhalation of the gas, which is toxic. However, some students regard a fume cupboard as insulation to prevent the escape of heat energy, or thought it was to trap and retain the gas.

08.5 Most students knew and were able to express, that the atoms get larger going down the group. Some, however, referred incorrectly to the number of outer shells increasing. Fewer were able to express that there was a reducing attraction between the nucleus and the outer electrons or the incoming electron, with many vague references to shielding without mentioning the nucleus or the relevant electrons. Even fewer were able to express the increase in difficulty of gaining (rather than merely attracting) an electron.

Answer 16 · Examiner comments

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

08.6 Very few students scored full marks. Most students were able to calculate the mass of iron, but some calculated the mass of iron chloride instead of chlorine. They sometimes then assumed a formula of iron chloride and tried to work backwards. Of those who did calculate the masses of both iron and chlorine, most were then able to calculate the number of moles of each, but many then failed to find the simplest ratio as 1:3, instead leaving it as 0.08:0.24. Some calculated the number of moles of chlorine molecules instead of atoms; these students almost always failed to multiply by 2 to obtain the number of moles of atoms, giving a ratio of 2:3 instead of 1:3. Very few were then able to give a balanced equation; most did not use their ratio to give the formula of iron chloride as $FeCl_3$. It was rare to see the formula of chlorine written correctly as Cl_2, and iron was sometimes seen as Fe_2.

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 17 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2 (standard demand)

02.1 This was very well answered by the majority of students, with nearly two thirds scoring both marks. Most stated that both atoms have one outer shell electron and that potassium has one more shell than sodium. Sometimes the wrong number of shells was given for the two elements; usually 2 shells for sodium and 3 for potassium. Some stated that potassium has more outer shells than sodium. This is not correct as the phrase 'outer shell' is always taken to mean the single outermost shell. Some students gave consequences of the electronic structure rather than referring to the electronic structure itself; this was not given credit. Simply stating that the number of electrons is different did not answer the question; the number of electrons is not the electronic configuration.

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

02.3 Well over half of students gave a correct colour and a correct reason, either in terms of the solution being alkaline or containing hydroxide ions. Nearly three quarters of students gained one mark. Some students had evidently seen, and remembered, the experiment done with phenolphthalein in the water, and therefore stated the indicator colour to be pink even though they knew the solution to be alkaline. Some answers were not clearly expressed; 'potassium is an alkali' did not gain credit as it is the potassium hydroxide solution that is alkaline. There were

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Answer 17 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

also, however, some excellent answers in terms of the hydroxide ion produced causing the solution to be alkaline.

02.4 More than four fifths of students plotted all of their points accurately. Many also drew a line of best fit although this was not required. A few drew their points as small dots instead of crosses, making it very difficult for the examiners to see them on a scanned image. Points do need to be visible, albeit sharp.

02.5 Students could nearly always estimate the density of krypton to within the tolerance allowed. Many used a line of best fit to do so although this was not necessary. In some cases inappropriate methods were used, such as finding the mean of all the other values; this did not gain credit even if it gave a value withing the range allowed.

02.6 Three quarters of students identified the correct pair of solutions, with the spread of incorrect responses being approximately equal.

02.7 Over two thirds of students identified the correct pair of trends. Most of the incorrect responses thought that boiling point decreases down the group.

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 18 · Examiner comments

June 2025 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

Question 4 (standard, standard/high and high demand)

04.1 More than two thirds of students were able to estimate the boiling point from the bar chart. A generous range was allowed, from -70 °C to -20 °C. A surprising number of students gave 0 °C or a positive value.

04.2 Three quarters of students were able to use the bar chart to deduce that -250 °C is below fluorine's melting point, so fluorine must be a solid at that temperature. Many stated fluorine to be a gas at that temperature, preferring to rely on what they 'knew' about fluorine than to analyse the data.

4.1.2.6 Group 7

Answer 18 · Examiner comments June 2025 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

04.3 Nearly all students gave the correct answer. Some produced an answer of 3, perhaps by trying to work out the detailed electronic configuration instead of simply looking at the group number.

04.4 Fewer than three fifths gave a correct answer. Students were expected to give the formula HAt by analogy with HCl. AtH was also accepted. However, there were many instances of H_2At, HAt_2, H_2At_2 or 2HAt. Some students tried to write an equation, which is never an appropriate response when asked for a formula and did not gain credit.

04.5 This question discriminated well, with nearly all students gaining at least one mark but only one in seven scoring all four. Precise use of language was required. Most students were able to state that reactivity decreases going down Group 7. Many were also able to state that gaining an electron became more difficult going down the group, although some referred incorrectly to likelihood rather than difficulty. Far fewer students were awarded the other two marks. Many said 'they' or 'the elements' become larger or 'they' or 'the elements' have more shells rather than specifically referring to the atom. Others stated that electrons, rather than outer shell electrons, become further from the nucleus. Some stated incorrectly that atoms have more outer shells. All atoms have one outer shell. Many students referred to the attraction between the nucleus and the outer shell, rather than between the nucleus and the electrons in the outer shell. Some incorrectly described this attraction as intermolecular or gravitational. Those who tried to refer to shielding usually found difficulty in expressing the idea correctly. Some brought in trends in melting and boiling points, which were not relevant.

04.6 This question also discriminated well, with nearly two thirds of students gaining at least one mark and one third gaining all three. Most students who could write the correct formulae could also balance the equation. However, there were many incorrect formulae, with errors such as Br instead of Br_2, KI_2 instead of KI, and even interhalogen compounds as products such as BrI. Compensation marks were available for those who could write the correct formulae for the two halogens and / or the correct formulae for the two potassium halides. There was no credit for balancing incorrect formulae.