AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.10.1.4

Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**5**
Available paper years	**2007–2023**

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.

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

November 2007 | CHY1A | Original Q4 | Legacy

Four	**3**	**3**	**2**	**1**

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | CH1HP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	Mark
2(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
2(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
2(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
2(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 2 continues on the next page

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | CH1HP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2 continued

question	answers	extra information	Mark
2(b)(iv)	(copper ions move towards) the negative electrode / *cathode* 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 1
2(b)(v)	(growing) plants		1
Total			**9**

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 03 · Mark scheme June 2014 | CH1HP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
4(a)(i)	phytomining		1	1 / 1.3.1g	G
4(a)(ii)	*(the land contains)* very little copper	*allow low grade ore **or** large amounts of waste* *ignore quarrying / benefits of using plants*	1	3 / 1.3.1f/g	E
	uneconomical	*accept (smelting) uses a lot of energy / fossil fuels* *allow expensive*	1		
4(a)(iii)	Cu **2** $CuO + C \rightarrow$ **2** $Cu + CO_2$	*allow* $2\ CuO + C \rightarrow Cu_2 + CO_2$ *for **1** mark*	1 1	2 / 1.3.1f	E
4(b)(i)	iron is more reactive (than copper) iron is cheap(er than copper)	*allow cheaper **or** uses less energy than electrolysis*	1 1	1 + 2 / 1.3.1h	E
4(b)(ii)	*any **two** from:* • copper / ions move **or** are attracted to the negative electrode / *cathode* • where they are reduced **or** gain (two) electrons • *where they form copper (metal / atoms)*		2	1 / 1.3.1h	E
Total			**9**		

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH1HP | Original Q4 | Legacy



4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	(lead is) toxic / poisonous	allow (lead is) harmful ignore (lead is) dangerous / deadly / lethal	1	AO3 4.10.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	the proportions (of metals) are different		1	AO3 4.10.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3	any **three** from: • recycling conserves copper ores • recycling uses less energy • recycling reduces waste • mining / quarrying cause environmental impacts	ignore references to cost allow copper ores are finite allow recycling reduces use of landfill allow description of environmental impact caused by mining / quarrying	3	AO1 AO2 AO3 4.10.1.1 4.10.1.4 4.10.2.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	grow plants (on land containing copper ores) plants are burnt (to produce ash) ash dissolved in acid (to produce a solution of a copper compound) electrolysis of solution (containing a copper compound) **or** displacement (of copper) from solution (containing a copper compound)	allow named plant allow addition of scrap iron to the solution (of a copper compound)	1 1 1 1	AO1 4.10.1.4

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Question 8 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5	any **two** from: • high grade ores still available • land not available • phytomining takes a long time • new technology	allow demand not high enough	2	AO3 4.10.1.4

Total			**11**

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/2H | Original Q5

Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	$CuFeS_2$ + **$4O_2$** → $CuSO_4$+$FeSO_4$	allow multiples allow O_2 for **1** mark	2	AO2 4.1.1.1 4.3.1.1 4.10.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.2	(M_r = 63.5 + 56 + (2 x 32) =) 183.5		1	AO2 4.3.1.2 4.10.1.4
	(% of copper =) $\frac{63.5}{183.5}$ × 100	allow correct use of incorrectly determined M_r	1	
	= 34.6 (%)	allow 34.60490 correctly rounded to at least 2 significant figures	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.3		MP2 is dependent upon MP1 being awarded		AO1 4.8.3.2 RPA7
	(test) (add) sodium hydroxide (solution)		1	
	(result) blue precipitate		1	
	OR			
	(test) flame test (1)			
	(result) green (flame) (1)	allow blue-green (flame)		

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/2H | Original Q5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.4	(the use of) bacteria to produce leachate solutions (that contain metal / copper compounds)		1 1	AO1 4.10.1.4

Total Question 5	**9**

4.10.1.4 Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)

Answer 04 · Examiner comments November 2021 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

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

08.1 The likely toxicity of lead was identified by approximately half of the students.

08.2 Nearly half of the students gained this mark.

08.3 A good spread of marks were seen here, with around 70% giving at least one creditworthy response, usually linked to energy or waste. However very few were able to gain all 3 marks.

08.4 Approximately one-third of students were able to gain the first two marking points. However, very few scored beyond marking point 2 as the need to add the resulting ash to acid was almost never given.

08.5 Under half of students gave one reason, usually that phytomining is slow. Very few were able to give a second reason.

Answer 05 · Examiner comments June 2023 | 8462/2H | Original Q5

Question 5 (standard and standard / high demand)

05.1 Nearly all students correctly identified oxygen as the missing item in the equation and most correctly identified it as a diatomic molecule and were then able to go on to balance it correctly. Four-fifths of students gained both marks.

05.2 This calculation was well done by many students, with more than three-quarters of students scoring the mark. The commonest error was to incorrectly calculate the relative formula mass of the compound due to missing the fact that the compound contained two atoms of sulfur and not one. More than three-quarters of students scored the mark.

05.3 Many students were aware that the test for copper(II) ions produces a blue precipitate. However, there was more trouble in identifying the correct reagent and as a result a number of students scored no marks. A number of students were able to gain credit by the use of a flame test instead. Nearly half of students gained both marks.

05.4 This item was not well answered with many students incorrectly assuming that bioleaching was the same as phytomining. Of those who did know what bioleaching referred to, most were able to identify the use of bacteria, but very few gained the second mark for ‘leachate solutions’, either just referring to ‘leachate’, or by going on to say that the leachate contained copper (rather than copper compounds/ions). Only 10% of students scored both marks, although around half knew that bacteria were involved.