AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.2.1.1

Chemical bonds

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**4**
Available paper years	**2011–2022**

Using this booklet

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

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

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

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | CHY2H | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)	gives out heat / energy **or** energy / heat transferred to surroundings	allow more energy given out in making bonds than is used in breaking bonds ignore light	1
4(b)	activation	allow phonetic spelling	1
4(c)(i)	2 crosses on inner circle **and** 8 crosses on outer circle	accepts dots / e / — for electrons	1
4(c)(ii)	opposite charges (attract)	allow electrostatic forces (attract) do **not** accept intermolecular attraction / shared electrons	1
Total			**4**

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | CHY2H | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY2H

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q1

Question 1

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

Question 1 continued

Question	Answers	Mark	AO/ Spec. Ref
01.2	**Level 2:** Scientifically relevant features are identified; the way(s) in which they are similar/different is made clear and (where appropriate) the magnitude of the similarity/difference is noted.	4–6	AO1 4.2.1.2 4.2.1.3 4.2.1.4
	Level 1: Relevant features are identified and differences noted.	1–3	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content • (both) carbon dioxide and silicon dioxide are made up of atoms • (but) magnesium oxide is made up of ions • (both) silicon dioxide and magnesium oxide are giant structures • (but) carbon dioxide is small molecules • with weak intermolecular forces • all three compounds have strong bonds • (both) carbon dioxide and silicon dioxide are formed from two non-metals • (so) bonds formed are covalent • (so) electron (pairs) are shared (between atoms) • (but) magnesium oxide is formed from a metal and a non-metal • (so) bonds in magnesium oxide are ionic • (so) electrons are transferred • from magnesium to oxygen • two electrons are transferred • bonds in silicon dioxide are single bonds • (where) each silicon forms four bonds • (and) each oxygen forms two bonds • (but) in carbon dioxide the bonds are double bonds • (where) carbon forms two double bonds • (and) oxygen forms one double bond ignore properties e.g. melting point, electrical conductivity		

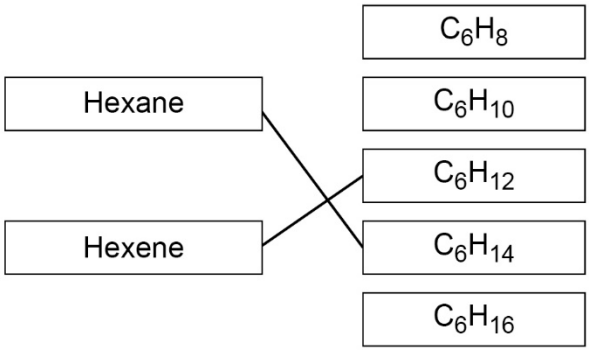
Total			8

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/2H | Original Q3

Question 3

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

Question 3 (continued)

Question	Answers	Mark	AO/ Spec. Ref
03.3	**Level 2:** Scientifically relevant features are identified; the way(s) in which they are similar/different is made clear and (where appropriate) the magnitude of the similarity/difference is noted.	4–6	AO1 AO2
	Level 1: Relevant features are identified and differences noted.	1–3	
	No relevant content	0	4.7.1.1 4.7.1.3 4.7.1.4 4.7.2.1 4.7.2.2 4.9.3.1
	Indicative content **Structure and bonding** • both are hydrocarbons • both contain two carbon atoms (per molecule) • ethane contains six hydrogen atoms (per molecule) • (but) ethene contains four hydrogen atoms (per molecule) • both have covalent bonds • ethane contains a single C—C bond • (but) ethene contains a double bond • both contain C—H bonds • both small molecules **Reactions** • both react with oxygen in complete combustion reactions • to produce water and carbon dioxide • both react with oxygen in incomplete combustion reactions • to produce water, carbon monoxide and carbon • incomplete combustion is more likely with ethene • ethene decolourises bromine water • (but) ethane does not decolourise bromine water • ethene is more reactive (than ethane) • ethene can react with hydrogen (to produce ethane) • ethene can react with water (to produce ethanol) • ethene can react with halogens (to produce halogenoalkanes) • ethene can undergo addition reactions • ethene can polymerise (to produce poly(ethene)) ignore physical properties ignore references to flammability		

Total			10

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q1

Question 1

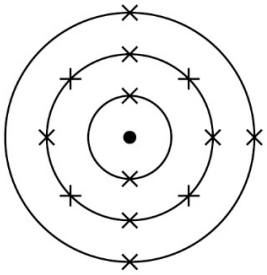
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	D		1	AO3 4.1.2.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.2	B		1	AO3 4.1.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3	any **two** from: (Group 1 elements) • have lower melting / boiling points • have lower densities • are less strong • are softer	allow converse statements for transition elements allow (Group 1 elements are) more malleable / ductile allow (Group 1 elements) are not useful as catalysts ignore transition elements form coloured compounds ignore transition elements form ions with different charges ignore references to chemical properties	2	AO1 4.1.3.1 4.1.3.2

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.4		allow any combination of x, •, o, $e^{(-)}$ for electrons	1	AO2 4.1.1.7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.5	delocalised electrons	allow free electrons	1	AO1 4.2.1.5 4.2.2.8
	(the electrons) carry (electrical) charge	ignore current / electricity for charge	1	
	(the electrons move) through the metal / aluminium / structure	ignore throughout for through	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.6	ionic		1	AO1 4.2.1.1

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.7	magnesium (atom) loses electrons		1	AO2 4.2.1.1 4.2.1.2
	oxygen (atom) gains electrons		1	
	two electrons (are transferred)		1	
	magnesium ions **and** oxide ions are formed	allow Mg^{2+} (ions) **and** O^{2-} (ions) are formed allow magnesium forms positive ions and oxygen forms negative ions allow (both) form a complete outer shell	1	

Total Question 1		13

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 02 · Examiner comments November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q1

Question 1 (standard demand)

01.1 Few students scored both marks. Diamond and sodium chloride were both commonly seen incorrect responses.

01.2 Many students were unable to reach the higher marks because they did not make direct comparisons. Instead, they gave separate descriptions of the three compounds. Many also referred to the properties of the compounds, which were not required. The phrase 'intermolecular forces' was used indiscriminately to describe interactions between ions or in giant covalent structures, as well as between molecules.

Answer 03 · Examiner comments November 2020 | 8462/2H | Original Q3

Question 3 (standard demand)

03.1 The vast majority of students scored both marks here. Again some reversed the responses and there was no pattern in the selection of the distractors.

03.2 Quite well answered, with the majority of students gaining at least one mark. A very wide range of colours for bromine water were seen in addition to orange, including red, yellow, brown and intermediate shades. A common error was to assert that the bromine water **becomes** orange upon addition to hexane. The difference between colourless and clear is now well understood by most.

03.3 This part was not very well answered by many, usually because they focused exclusively on structure and bonding at the expense of reactions, which could indicate that they didn't read the question carefully enough or didn't refer back to the question when constructing their response. Structure and bonding were well understood, but few of the reactions were mentioned. Additionally, students often reversed their answers because they confused ethane and ethene or the formation of their handwriting made it unclear whether a compound name ended 'ane' or 'ene'. The command word 'compare' demands that students mention both compounds to access level 2 and there were some imprecise comparisons such as 'ethane undergoes complete combustion whereas ethene undergoes incomplete combustion'. Because of these points, rather fewer than half of students were able to access level 2.

4.2.1.1 Chemical bonds

Answer 04 · Examiner comments — June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q1

Question 1 (Standard demand)

01.1 Students found this question challenging. It was expected that the lack of electrical conductivity and the low melting point would have suggested a non-metal and therefore section **D**. However, fewer than half of students gave this response, with distractors **A** and **C** both proving very attractive to students.

01.2 Nearly two thirds of students recognised element **R** as a transition metal and therefore in area **B**.

01.3 Fewer than 20% of students scored two marks, although more than half scored at least one mark. Students were asked to compare physical properties of Group 1 elements with transition elements. Many students gave chemical properties such as reactivity instead of physical properties. Others referred to atomic structure. Some students described a property of either a Group 1 element or a transition element without reference to the other.

01.4 Nearly all students could draw the electronic structure correctly.

01.5 The great majority of students referred to delocalised electrons in their answer. Many also referred to the electrons carrying charge. However, few articulated the idea that the electrons themselves move through the metal in a particular direction. Many implied that the movement was random by the use of words such as ‘throughout’ rather than ‘through’. Some students incorrectly referred to electrons bumping into other atoms or electrons.

01.6 The great majority of students correctly identified the type of bonding.

Answer 04 · Examiner comments — June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q1

01.7 The majority of students gave excellent descriptions of the transfer of two electrons from a magnesium atom to an oxygen atom to produce magnesium ions and oxide ions,with more than 80% scoring at least three marks. A few students showed a lack of understanding by subsequently referring to electrons being shared.