AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.2.1.2

Ionic bonding

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**16**
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.

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

November 2007 | CHY1A | Original Q6 | Legacy

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

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

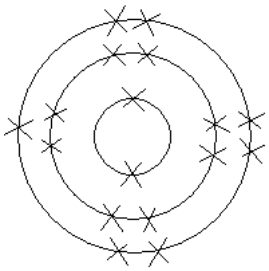
January 2008 | CHY2H | Original Q5 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 34. Follow original question 5 in that document.

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(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
1(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
1(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
1(c)(ii)	hydrogen	accept H_2 ignore H or H^+	1

Question 1 continues on next page

CHY2H

Question 1 continued

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(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
1(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
1(d)(iii)	ideas related to bias	accept more reliable or valid or fair ignore more accurate / fair test	1
Total			**8**

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY2H | Original Q1 | Legacy

CHY2H

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

June 2010 | CHY2H | Original Q5 | Legacy

Question 5

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(a)(i)	lead nitrate	accept $Pb(NO_3)_2$ do **not** accept nitride	1
	sodium iodide / potassium iodide	accept NaI / KI accept other correct soluble iodides do **not** accept sodium iodine / potassium iodine	1
5(a)(ii)	filter / filtration / filtering	accept decant / decanting etc. accept centrifugation ignore evaporation **or** heating if after filtration	1

Question 5 continues on the next page

Question 5 continued

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(b)	magnesium <u>loses</u> **<u>2</u>** <u>electrons</u>	metallic / sharing / covalent **or** molecule = max **3** all three underlined ideas must be present two underlined ideas = **1** mark eg magnesium loses electrons **or** magnesium gains 2 electrons **or** magnesium loses 2 ions nb magnesium **ion** loses 2 electrons = **1** mark 2 errors = **0** marks eg magnesium gains electrons	2
	<u>iodine</u> <u>gains</u> **<u>1</u>** / **<u>an</u>** <u>electron</u>	all four underlined ideas must be present three underlined ideas = **1** mark eg iodine gains electron(s) **or** iodine loses 1 / an electron **or** iodine gains 1 / an ion **or** iodide (ion) gains 1 / an electron 2 errors = **0** marks	2
5(c)	any **two** from: • forces *(*of attraction) / bonds are <u>strong</u> **or** lot of energy needed to break bonds • oppositely charged ions <u>attract</u> **or** electrostatic <u>attraction</u> between ions • <u>giant</u> structure **or** <u>lattice</u>	mention of molecules / intermolecular / covalent / atoms = max **1** allow many bonds ignore ionic bonding unqualified	2
Total			**9**

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

June 2010 | CHY2H | Original Q5 | Legacy

CHY 2H

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)(i)	removal of oxygen	accept definition in terms of electrons **or** oxidation numbers ignore oxides	1
4(a)(ii)	2 (Cl_2)	allow correct multiples	1
4(a)(iii)	no atoms are lost / made (during a chemical reaction) **or** the atoms are rearranged (during a chemical reaction)	accept because of (the law of) conservation of mass / matter	1
4(b)(i)	sodium is more reactive (than titanium)	accept sodium is very reactive **or** titanium is less reactive do **not** accept sodium is more reactive than argon	1
4(b)(ii)	any **one** from: • sodium / titanium would react with oxygen / air • sodium / titanium does not react with argon	 accept air / oxygen is reactive accept argon is unreactive / inert / a noble gas / in group O	1
4(c)(i)	all atoms are the same / it only contains one type of atom	accept all ions are the same do **not** accept only got one atom do **not** accept all atoms are the same size ignore particles	1
4(c)(ii)	two different / types atoms / elements / ions bonded / joined together	accept more than one type of atom / ion / element do **not** accept different size accept definite proportions do **not** accept mixture	1 1
Total			**8**

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

January 2011 | CHY1H | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY1H

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 06 · 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**

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | CHY2H | Original Q4 | Legacy

CHY2H

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | CH2HP | Original Q4 | Legacy

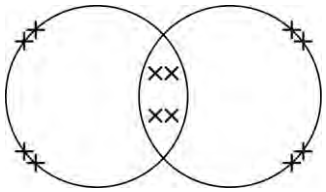
Question 4

question	Answers	extra information	Mark
4(a)(i)	current / charge couldn't flow because the ions / particles couldn't move **or** (salt) needs to be molten / dissolved (to conduct electricity) (1) so that the ions / particles can move (1)	allow could not conduct (electricity) do **not** accept electrons/ molecules / atoms do **not** accept electrons / molecules / atoms	1 1
4(a)(ii)	he had status **or** he had evidence / proof	accept he had authority **or** experience accept the experiment could be repeated	1
4(b)	hydrogen / H_2 the ions are positive potassium is more reactive (than hydrogen)	do **not** allow hydrogen ions accept because opposite (charges) attract accept potassium ions are less easily discharged (than hydrogen) **or** potassium ions are less easily reduced (than hydrogen)	1 1 1
4(c)(i)	gain electron(s) one electron	accept fully balanced correct equation for **2** marks if no other marks awarded allow (potassium ions) reduced for **1** mark	1 1
4(c)(ii)	**2**Cl^- → Cl_2 + **2**e^-	must be completely correct, including charge on electron accept correct multiples	1
4(c)(iii)	2, 8, 8	accept any combination of dots, crosses, "e" or any other relevant symbol ignore any charges if given	1
Total			**10**

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH2HP | Original Q7 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
7(a)	*weaker bonds* ***or*** *fewer bonds* ***or*** *disruption to lattice*	*allow (other substances) react with the silicon dioxide* *ignore weaker / fewer forces* *do **not** accept reference to intermolecular forces / bonds*	1	2 / 2.2.3a	E
7(b)(i)	Na_2O	*do **not** accept brackets or charges in the formula*	1	2 / 2.1	E
7(b)(ii)	 2 bonding pairs 2 lone pairs on each oxygen	*electrons can be shown as dots, crosses, e or any combination* *accept 4 electrons within the overlap* *accept 4 non-bonding electrons on each oxygen*	 1 1	1 / 2.1	E
7(c)	*lattice / regular pattern / layers / giant structure / close-packed arrangement* (of) positive ions **or** (of) atoms (with) delocalised / free electrons	reference to incorrect particles **or** incorrect bonding **or** incorrect structure = max **2**	 1 1 1	1 / 2.1.1h/i	E
Total			**7**		

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH1HP | Original Q1 | Legacy

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	

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH1HP | Original Q1 | Legacy



4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	FeS_2	do **not** accept equations	1	AO2 4.2.1.3
02.2	26 30 26	must be this order	1 1 1	AO2 4.1.1.4 4.1.1.5
02.3	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

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

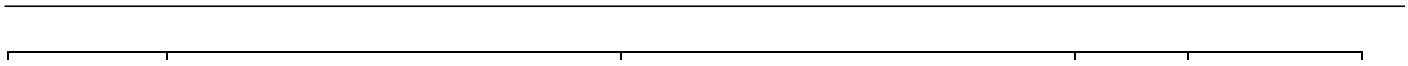
June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.4	carbon is more reactive (than nickel) (so) carbon will displace / replace nickel (from nickel oxide) **or** (so) carbon will remove oxygen (from nickel oxide)	allow converse allow (so) nickel ions gain electrons allow (so) carbon transfers electrons to nickel (ions)	1 1	AO1 4.4.1.2 4.4.1.3
02.5	 (total M_r of reactants =) 87 (percentage atom economy) $= \frac{59}{87} \times 100$ = 67.8 (%)	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 allow (percentage atom economy) $= \frac{59}{\text{incorrectly calculated } M_r} \times 100$ allow an answer from an incorrect calculation to 3 sig figs	 1 1 1	AO2 4.3.3.2
Total			11	

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q2



4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 11 · 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		

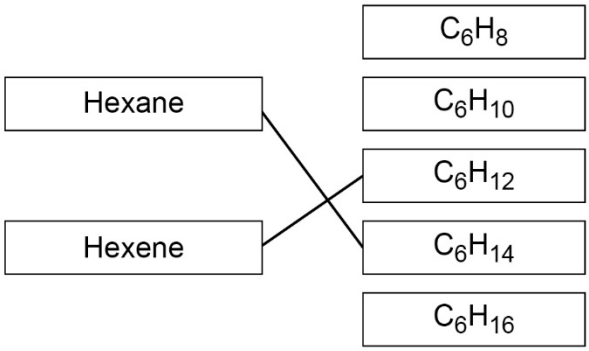
Total			8

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 12 · 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

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

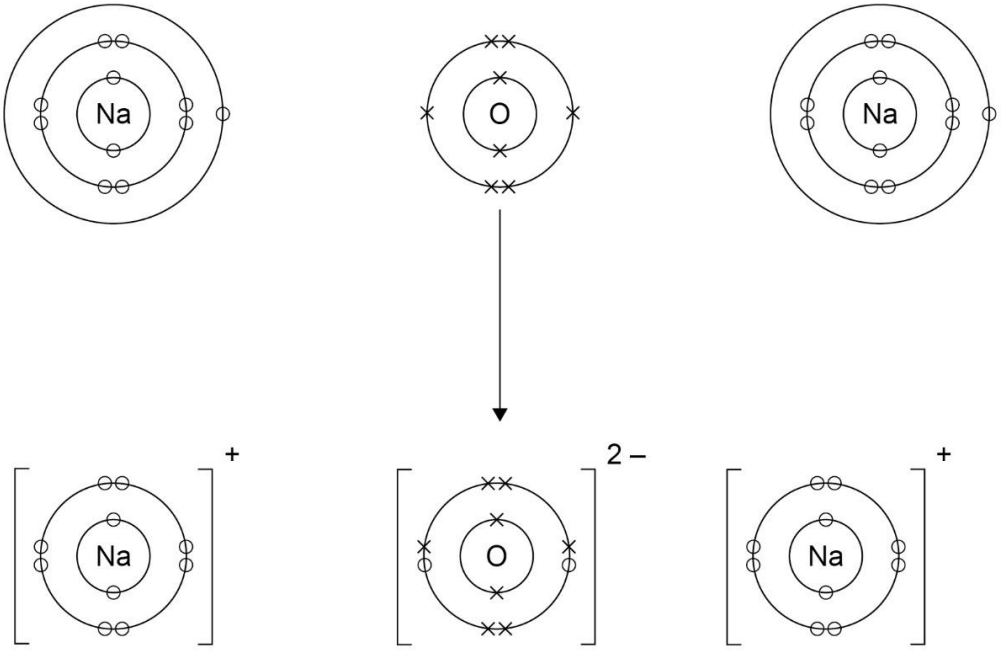
Question 4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.1	any **two** from: • (potassium) floats • (potassium) melts • (potassium) moves around • potassium becomes smaller • (lilac) flame • effervescence	 allow potassium disappears allow fizzing	2	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.2	$2K + 2H_2O \rightarrow 2KOH + H_2$	allow multiples allow **1** mark for KOH **and** H_2	2	AO1 AO2 4.1.1.1 4.1.2.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.3	reactivity increases (going down the group) (because) the outer electron / shell is further from the nucleus (so) there is less attraction between the nucleus and the outer electron / shell (so) the atom loses an electron more easily	 allow (because) there are more shells allow (because) the atoms get larger allow (so) there is more shielding from the nucleus do **not** accept incorrect attractions	1 1 1 1	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.2

Question 4 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.4	(dot and cross diagram to show) sodium atom **and** oxygen atom	allow use of outer shells only	1	AO2 4.2.1.1 4.2.1.2
	two sodium atoms to one oxygen atom	allow two sodium ions to one oxide ion	1	
	(to produce) sodium ion with a + charge		1	
	(to produce) oxide ion with a 2– charge		1	
	 scores **4** marks			

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Question 4 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.5	(oxygen) gains electrons		1	AO1 4.4.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.6	giant structure	allow (giant ionic) lattice	1	AO1 4.2.1.3 4.2.2.1
	(with) strong (electrostatic) forces of attraction between (oppositely charged) ions		1	4.2.2.3
	(so) large amounts of energy are needed to break the bonds / forces	allow (so) large amounts of energy are needed to separate the ions	1	

Total			**16**

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q1

Question 1

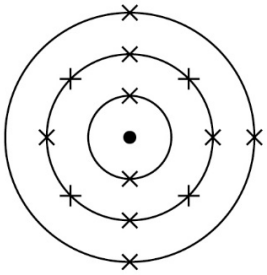
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	D		1	AO3 4.1.2.3

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

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 14 · 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

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 14 · 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

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q6

Question 6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.1	$Na^+ + e^- \rightarrow Na$		1	AO2 4.4.3.2 4.4.3.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.2	so the products do not react (to reform sodium chloride)		1	AO3 4.4.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.3	ion		1	AO3 4.4.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.4	hydrogen / H^+ (ions) hydroxide / OH^- (ions)		1 1	AO1 4.4.3.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.5	sodium hydroxide	allow NaOH	1	AO2 4.4.3.4

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.6	sodium ions and hydroxide ions are left (in solution)		1	AO2 4.4.3.4
	(because) hydrogen ions are discharged / reduced (at the negative electrode to form hydrogen)	allow (because) hydrogen ions gain electrons (at the negative electrode to form hydrogen) allow (because at the negative electrode) $2\ H^+ + 2\ e^- \rightarrow H_2$	1	
	(and because) chloride ions are discharged / oxidised (at the positive electrode to form chlorine)	allow (and because) chloride ions lose electrons (at the positive electrode to form chlorine) allow (and because at the positive electrode) $2\ Cl^- \rightarrow Cl_2 + 2\ e^-$	1	

Total Question 6		9

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2

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

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

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

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

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

Total Question 2	11

Version 1.0: 0108

ASSESSMENT and QUALIFICATIONS ALLIANCE

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Additional Science 4463 / Chemistry 4421

CHY2H Unit 2 Chemistry

Mark Scheme

2008 examination – January series

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

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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.

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4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

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.

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.

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	sensible line of best fit which goes through or close to all the points **except** the anomalous point	allow wobbly / short double lines ± ½ square	1
(b)	loss of gas / loss of CO_2	idea of gas produced / formed	1
(c)	7		1
(d)(i)	steeper line from around the same starting point and left of the points levelling off at 99	allow crosses if they are fully correct for **1** mark accept short level line at 99 ± ½ square	1 1
(d)(ii)	any **three** from: • particles / molecules / atoms/ ions have more energy • move faster • collide <u>more</u> often **or** <u>more</u> chance of collisions **or** bump into each other <u>more</u> • collide with <u>more</u> force / energy **or** <u>more</u> particles have the activation energy **or** <u>more</u> collisions result in reaction **or** <u>more</u> collisions are successful	 allow given / gain / get energy ignore move about more ignore vibrate more / faster ignore collide quicker / faster	3
total			8

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	any **one** from: • they are made of layers • atoms / ions / particles / layers (of atoms) can slide over each other	 do **not** accept line / rows / lattice	1
(b)	any **one** from: • smaller / tiny **or** very small • correct size range 1 to 100 nanometres • a few hundred atoms in size	 do **not** allow small alone if they state smaller and give a size outside range ignore size if it is less than 20,000	1
(c)	harder plus **one** from: • so does not wear as quickly / erode as quickly • less vulnerable to damage owtte • because they have a high surface area to volume ratio **or** stronger (1) plus **one** from: (1) • less likely to break / do not break • not as vulnerable to damage owtte • do not bend out of shape • because they have a high surface area to volume ratio	 ignore corrode harder to wear down = **1** mark accept withstand pressure harder and stronger alone gains **1** mark	1 1
total			4

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 3

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	N_2O		1
(b)	13.8 to 14	gains full marks without working if answer incorrect 13 gains **1** mark **or** 14/101 × 100 gains **1** mark	2
total			3

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

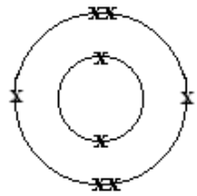
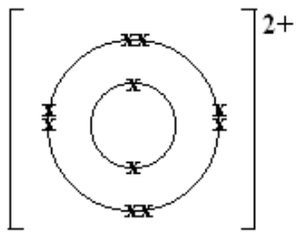
Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	electric current / electricity		1
	plus **one** from:		1
	• is passed through ionic compound / substance / electrolyte • passed through molten/aqueous compound / substance	must be linked to electricity allow liquid compound / substance do **not** allow solution / liquid alone	
	• causing decomposition	accept split up / breakdown / breaking up owtte ignore separated accept elements are formed ignore new substances form	
(b)	hydrogen	accept H_2 do **not** accept H / H^2	1
(c)	one electron from each atom	accept each carbon is bonded to three other carbon atoms leaving one (unbonded) electron owtte	1
	is delocalised / free (to move)	must be linked to electrons answers of delocalised / free electrons only, gains **1** mark accept each carbon is bonded to three other carbon atoms leaving delocalised / free electrons = **2** marks **maximum 1** mark if graphite described as a metal / giant ionic lattice	1
total			5

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 5

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	any **one** from: • gives out heat / energy • transfers energy from a substance to the surroundings • ΔH / energy change / enthalpy change is negative	accept releases / gives off owtte ignore references to light	1
(b)	$2Mg + O_2 \rightarrow 2MgO$	accept correct multiples / fractions	1
(c)		electrons do not need to be paired accept dots / circles / e instead of crosses do **not** allow 2.6 without diagram	1
(d)		electrons do not need to be paired allow without brackets must have the charge accept dots / circles / e instead of crosses ignore extra empty outer shells ignore nucleus do **not** allow $[2.8]^{2+}$ without diagram	1

continued…

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 5 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(e)	oppositely charged (ions / atoms)	allow positive and negative(ions / atoms)	1
	(they) attract	must be in correct context accept held by electrostatic forces ignore ionic bonding **maximum 1** if they refer to intermolecular forces / attractions / covalent bonds	1
(f)	magnesium chloride	accept $MgCl_2$ (if correctly written)	1
total			7

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	**Compound A** any **one** from: • sodium bromide • potassium bromide • ammonium bromide • hydrogen bromide • any metal bromide except silver and lead. **Compound B** silver nitrate	accept correct formulae accept silver sulfate	1 1
(b)	the silver compound will decompose / silver ions be reduced to silver (owtte)	accept film would darken owtte accept any idea of light changing silver bromide / silver ions / silver nitrate / silver sulfate allow 'forms a black solid' / it would turn black	1
(c)	precipitation	accept descriptions of precipitation reactions accept double decomposition accept precipitate do **not** allow displacement	1
(d)	electrons are gained	 the second mark **must** be linked to electrons accept it / silver / silver ions gains electrons for **both** marks ignore references to oxygen	1 1
total			6

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 7

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	1213.8 to 1214.3 correct answer not given then check working 1) moles of $N_2 = \frac{1000}{28}$ $= 35.7$ mol 2) moles of $NH_3 = 2 \times$ (answer from (1)) $= 71.4$ mol 3) mass of NH_3 = (answer from 2) × 17 $= 71.4 \times 17 = 1214$ g **or** • 28g of $N_2 \rightarrow 34$g of NH_3 • 1g of $N_2 \rightarrow \frac{34}{28}$ $= 1.214$g NH_3 • 1000 g of $N_2 \rightarrow 1000 \times 1.214$ $= 1214$g **or** • $1000 \times \frac{34}{28}$ **or** **other correct methods**	gains **3** marks without working **1** mark for each correct step do **not** penalise rounding errors in this part **1** mark for each correct step do **not** penalise rounding errors in this part allow error carried forward eg gains **2** marks if correct answer not given $1000 \times \frac{28}{34}$ gains **1** mark, **2** marks if correctly calculated (823.5g) $1000 \times \frac{28}{17}$ gains **1** mark if calculated correctly (1647.05g) look for the key ideas in the methods above	3

continued…

CHY2H

Question 7 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(b)	25 / 25.035 **or** ecf from (a)	gains **2** marks even when there is no working incorrect answer then 304/(their answer from (a)) × 100 gains **1** mark	2
	or using figures from part (b)		
	27.6 / 28	gains **2** marks even when there is no working accept 27 for **1** mark if answers incorrect then304/1100 × 100 gains **1** mark	
(c)(i)	increase yield		1
	reaction is exothermic		1
	or		
	allow decreased yield because rate of reaction is slower / fewer collisions for **2** marks	**must** get both points for **2** marks	
(c)(ii)	increase yield		1
	plus **one** from: • more (gaseous) reactant molecules than (gaseous) product molecules (owtte) • increased rate of reaction / more collisions	accept greater volume on the left than the right owtte	1

continued…

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 7 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(d)	any **one** from: **economic** • large town provides workforce • workers do not have to travel far to the factory. (owtte) • transport infrastructure already in place for large town. (owtte) • factory brings prosperity to town (owtte) • factory provides employment • reduced tourism • reduction in local house prices • any other sensible economic factor linked to town		1
	any **one** from: **safety** • escape of dangerous / harmful chemicals / gases (owtte) • danger of increased traffic • risk of explosion.(owtte) /danger of high pressure • consequences of an accident could be severe if the town is close • any other sensible safety idea	do **not** allow polluting gases unqualified	1

continued…

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

CHY2H

Question 7(d) continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
	any **one** from: **environmental** • factory might be unsightly (owtte) • screening of factory (owtte) • loss of habitats (owtte) • plant trees/ hedges etc on and around plant site • pollution of water / air / soil could harm plants / animals **or** noise pollution • CO_2 is produced by burning fuels / heating • CO_2 causes global warming / any effect of global warming • eye sore • any other sensible environmental factor	must be explained	1
total			12

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 10 · Examiner comments June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2 (standard demand)

02.1 Because the question asked for the formula rather than the empirical formula, an answer of Fe_9S_{18} was accepted. Even so, 51% of students could not count the atoms and produce a ratio of 1:2. A formula was required, not an equation which some students provided.

02.2 This was very well answered, with 88% of students achieving all three marks.

02.3 57% of students achieved both marks. However, some repeated information in the stem of the question, and some contradicted it by saying sodium is not a metal. Some gave differences in the structure of the atoms instead of differences in properties of the substances.

02.4 This was well answered, with 32% of students achieving one mark, and 57% achieving both.

A common error was to say that carbon is reacting with oxygen (it is not; it is reacting with nickel oxide to remove the oxygen). Those who tried to answer in terms of electron transfer often struggled to gain all the marks.

Answer 10 · Examiner comments June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

02.5 This question was well answered, with 60% of students achieving all three marks. However, interpretation of calculator displays did cause a bit of trouble for some students. Some students lost the final mark because they gave an answer of 67.$\dot{8}$. This answer is neither correct (it is not 67.8888888…) nor to three significant figures (it is to an infinite number of significant figures). Some even recognised this latter point and rounded, incorrectly, to 67.9.

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 11 · 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 12 · 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.

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 13 · Examiner comments

November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

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

04.1 Many students remembered that effervescence would be seen, but there were many vague descriptions such as ‘vigorous reaction’ which did not gain credit. Students often gave the same observation twice, eg, ‘effervescence’ and ‘bubbles’. Many students incorrectly mentioned a colour change, perhaps remembering a demonstration where an indicator had been added. Very few mentioned the potassium melting.

04.2 Very few students could write the formulae for the correct products. Those who could were usually able to balance the equation. Many students approached the question from the wrong direction, trying to balance the equation by inventing fictitious products.

04.3 This was not well answered, with only a small number of students scoring full marks. Many incorrectly tried to link reactivity to melting and boiling point. Many referred to the distance and / or attraction between the nucleus and electrons in general, rather than the outer electrons. Others failed to mention the nucleus at all.

04.4 The electron arrangements of both atoms and ions were required for full marks, as well as the ratio of sodium ions to oxide ions and the correct charges on the ions. Few students scored all the marks as they did not draw the atoms of sodium and oxygen before reaction. Many tried to draw covalent structures. The ratio of 2 atoms of sodium to one of oxygen was well known. Students should be aware that electrons cannot be in two places at the same time and should not be drawn as if they are. Some students drew both ionic and covalent structures, thereby contradicting themselves and losing the marks for a correct ionic structure. A great deal of time and effort would be saved by drawing the outer electrons only, as in the specification.

04.6 Students found this question very difficult, with many referring incorrectly to intermolecular forces, even when mentioning ions. Many also referred to covalent bonds or forces between atoms. Of those who did refer correctly to the large amounts of energy required to break the strong attractions between ions, very few referred to the giant structure of the compound.

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 14 · 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 14 · 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.

4.2.1.2 Ionic bonding

Answer 15 · Examiner comments — June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q6

Question 6 (Standard, standard/high and high demand)

06.1 Two thirds of students selected the correct half equation. A significant number chose a distractor in which Na was present at the start rather than formed in the reaction.

06.2 Most students realised the need to prevent the products from reacting together and reforming sodium chloride. However, a significant minority failed to appreciate that the reverse reaction would occur and instead focused on preventing the products from mixing or ensuring product purity.

Answer 15 · Examiner comments — June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q6

06.3 Only 60% of students recognised that ions must pass through the mesh. Nearly all other responses were ‘electrons’. Many students seem to think that an electric current can only be conducted by electrons moving, even through a solution in which there are no free electrons.

06.4 Most students recognised that hydrogen ions would be present in aqueous sodium chloride. However, only just over a half of students also recognised that hydroxide ions were present. Some stated that the fourth ion would be oxygen, showing a lack of understanding of the ionisation of water.

06.5 A majority of students recognised that the alkaline solution must be sodium hydroxide solution.

06.6 This was a high demand question which students found very challenging. The most common mark scored was for the sodium ions and hydroxide ions remaining in solution after the electrode processes. However, many students did not refer to ions. Others thought that hydroxide ions or sodium ions would be made, rather than being in the solution throughout the process. Whilst students often correctly stated the product at each electrode, few described the actual processes occurring at the electrodes as required by the question. Some otherwise creditworthy responses were let down by referring to chlorine ions instead of chloride ions, or by confusing the polarities of anode and cathode, or by confusing oxidation and reduction.

Answer 16 · Examiner comments

June 2025 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2 (standard demand)

02.1 Fewer than half of students could count the ions and realise that the ratio was 1:1 so the formula is CaS. Some tried to do it from the formulae of the ions but often wrote $CaSO_4$. Ca_9S_9 was a common incorrect answer, as was 9CaS. A formula was required, not an equation; equations did not gain credit.

02.2 More than three fifths of students gave fully correct answers, and nearly all scored at least 3 marks. The main omission was not saying what ions were formed. Students sometimes contradicted themselves by describing the atoms sharing electrons as well as those electrons being transferred. Any mention of sharing electrons negated the first three marking points. The correct formula of the sulfide ion was sometimes contradicted by an incorrect name such as 'sulfur ion' or 'sulfate ion'.

02.3 This was well answered by the majority of students, with two thirds reaching level 2. The question discriminated well. Many referred to the giant structure, the layers, the covalent bonds and the delocalised electrons. Fewer referred to the hexagonal rings of carbon atoms, with some incorrectly referring to the layers themselves as hexagonal. Many tried to refer to each carbon atom having three bonds, but some could not express themselves clearly, for example by leaving out the word atom or by implying that the whole structure contained only 3 bonds or 3 atoms. Fewer referred to the strength of the covalent bonds, with some incorrectly saying that covalent bonds are weak. Many also referred to the lack of covalent bonds between layers or the presence of weak intermolecular forces between the layers, but some referred to intermolecular forces without specifying their location. Very few referred to covalent bonds being shared pairs of electrons or to the fact that there is one delocalised electron per carbon atom. Many students introduced properties of graphite, which were not asked for and did not gain credit.

02.4 Very few gave the expected answer, which is the syllabus statement that small molecules do not have an overall electric charge. Some did try to refer to this but were not clear enough; 'they do not have an overall charge' does not necessarily refer to the small molecules since the subject of the sentence was 'substances. More than half did score the mark, but this was usually due to a reference to the lack of delocalised electrons. Some stated that there was no space for delocalised electrons, which is not the same thing and did not gain credit. Some stated that there are no mobile ions, which is ambiguous as it could mean that there are ions, but they are not mobile; this would not be correct.

02.5 Just over a half of students gave the correct reason, with 'poly(ethene) has more covalent bonds to break than methane' being the most popular distractor. Some ticked 2 boxes – usually the first and last; this automatically scores zero when the instruction is to tick **one** box.