AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.3.2.3

Using moles to balance equations (HT only)

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**2**
Available paper years	**2020–2021**

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.

4.3.2.3 Using moles to balance equations (HT only)

Answer 01 · 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

4.3.2.3 Using moles to balance equations (HT only)

Question 8 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5		allow energy level for shell throughout		AO1 4.1.2.6
	(going down the group) the outer electrons / shell become further from the nucleus	allow the atoms become larger allow the number of shells increases ignore the number of outer shells increases	1	
	(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	

4.3.2.3 Using moles to balance equations (HT only)

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**

4.3.2.3 Using moles to balance equations (HT only)

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/2H | Original Q10

Question 10

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.1	(steam / catalytic) cracking	allow thermal decomposition	1	AO1 4.7.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.2	high temperature steam / catalyst	allow a temperature in the range 300 – 900 °C	1 1	AO1 4.7.1.4

4.3.2.3 Using moles to balance equations (HT only)

Question 10 continued

Question	Answers	Mark	AO/ Spec. Ref
10.3	**Level 3:** Relevant points (reasons/causes) are identified, given in detail and logically linked to form a clear account.	5–6	AO2 4.6.1.3 4.6.2.4 4.6.2.6 4.6.2.7 4.7.2.2
	Level 2: Relevant points (reasons/causes) are identified, and there are attempts at logical linking. The resulting account is not fully clear.	3–4	
	Level 1: Points are identified and stated simply, but their relevance is not clear and there is no attempt at logical linking.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content **Rate** • higher temperature gives higher rate • because more frequent collisions • higher pressure gives higher rate • because more frequent collisions • a catalyst can be used to give a higher rate • because the activation energy is reduced **Yield** • higher temperature gives lower yield • because the reaction is exothermic • higher pressure gives higher yield • because there are more molecules on left hand side **Other factors** • higher temperatures use more energy so costs increase • higher pressures use more energy so costs increase • higher pressures require stronger reaction vessels so costs increase **Compromise** • chosen temperature is a compromise between rate and yield • chosen temperature is a compromise between rate and cost (of energy used) • chosen pressure is a compromise between rate and cost (of energy used) • chosen pressure is a compromise between yield and cost (of energy used)		

Question 10 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.4	fermentation	allow ferment(ing)	1	AO1 4.7.2.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.5	warm anaerobic (conditions)	allow a value in the range 25 °C to 45 °C allow without oxygen / air	1 1	AO2 4.7.2.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.6	(conversion) 200 km = 200,000 m (moles =) $\frac{200000 \times 1.95 \text{ (mol)}}{1300}$ = 300 (mol)	 allow correct use of incorrect / no conversion for distance	1 1 1	AO2 4.7.2.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.7	$C_4H_9OH + 6\,O_2 \rightarrow 4\,CO_2 + 5\,H_2O$	allow $C_4H_{10}O$ for C_4H_9OH allow multiples allow **1** mark for $C_4H_9OH + O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + H_2O$ with incorrect / no multipliers ignore state symbols	2	AO2 4.1.1.1 4.3.1.1 4.7.2.3

Total			17

4.3.2.3 Using moles to balance equations (HT only)

Answer 01 · 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 01 · 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.

4.3.2.3 Using moles to balance equations (HT only)

Answer 02 · Examiner comments

November 2021 | 8462/2H | Original Q10

Question 10 (standard, standard / high and high demand)

10.2 More than two thirds of students knew one condition (high temperature) and more than one third knew two.

10.3 There was a very wide range of marks but many did not score above Level 1. The main failure to reach Level 2 was that the question focuses on economics so that an answer which fails to mention energy, cost or a compromise in reaction conditions does not meet the level descriptor for Level 2. Similarly, the requirements for Level 3 were not usually met if the references did not mention the impact of reaction conditions on both rate and yield. Only a handful of students gave a Level 3 answer.

10.4 Fermentation was well known.

10.5 Around half of students scored one mark by extending their knowledge of fermentation to this unfamiliar context, 'warm' was seen much more often than 'anaerobic'.

10.6 This was completely correct in the responses of nearly half of students. Where a mark was not obtained, this was usually caused by a failure to convert kilometres to metres.

10.7 A challenging concluding equation with no scaffolding which students found difficult.

Concluding Remarks

There is still some evidence that command words are misunderstood or ignored. This limits the marks awarded, especially in extended response questions. This is particularly true where a command word demands a reasoned judgement.

Students seemed well prepared for questions based on Organic Chemistry and Chemistry of the Atmosphere. In this series they seemed less equipped to deal with Chemical Analysis, Rate of Reaction and some aspects of Using Resources.

There were a number of instances of key reagents, techniques and colour changes still not being well known.

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Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the Results Statistics page of the AQA Website.