AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.3.2.4

Limiting reactants (HT only)

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**2**
Available paper years	**2018–2020**

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.

4.3.2.4 Limiting reactants (HT only)

Answer 01 · Mark scheme June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	chlorine is toxic	allow carbon monoxide is toxic allow poisonous for toxic ignore harmful / deadly / dangerous allow a poisonous gas is used / produced allow titanium chloride is corrosive	1	AO3 4.1.2.6 4.4.1.3
08.2	any **one** from: • very exothermic reaction • produces a corrosive solution • produces hydrogen, which is explosive / flammable	 allow explosive allow violent reaction ignore vigorous reaction ignore sodium is very reactive allow caustic for corrosive ignore alkaline allow flames produced ignore sodium burns	1	AO3 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.3
08.3	argon is unreactive / inert oxygen (from air) would react with sodium / titanium **or** water vapour (from air) would react with sodium / titanium	allow argon will not react (with reactants / products / elements) allow elements / reactants / products for sodium / titanium	1 1	AO3 4.1.2.4 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.1 4.4.1.3

4.3.2.4 Limiting reactants (HT only)

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	metal chlorides are usually ionic	allow titanium chloride is ionic	1	AO1 4.1.2.6 4.1.3.1 4.2.1.2 4.2.2.3 4.2.2.4
	(so)(metal chlorides) are solid at room temperature **or** (so)(metal chlorides) have high melting points	allow titanium chloride for metal chlorides	1	
	(because) they have strong (electrostatic) forces between the ions **or** (but) must be a small molecule or covalent	ignore strong ionic bonds allow molecular allow alternative approach: titanium chloride must be covalent **or** has small molecules (1) with weak forces between molecules do **not** accept bonds unless intermolecular bonds(1) (but) metal chlorides are usually ionic (1)	1	
08.5	sodium (atoms) lose electrons	do **not** accept references to oxygen	1	AO1 4.4.1.4
08.6	Na → $Na^+ + e^-$	do **not** accept e for e^-	1	AO2 4.1.1.1 4.4.1.4

4.3.2.4 Limiting reactants (HT only)

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.7	(M_r of $TiCl_4$ =) 190 (moles Na) = $\frac{20\,000}{23}$ =) 870 (mol $\left(\text{moles } TiCl_4 = \frac{40\,000}{190} =\right)$ 211 (mol) **either** (sodium is in excess because) 870 mol Na is more than the 844 mol needed **or** (because) 211 mol $TiCl_4$ is less than the 217.5 mol needed	an incorrect answer for one step does **not** prevent allocation of marks for subsequent steps allow **1** mark for 0.870 mol Na **and** 0.211 mol $TiCl_4$ allow use of incorrectly calculated M_r from step 1 the mark is for correct application of the factor of 4 other correct reasoning showing, with values of moles or mass, an excess of sodium or insufficient $TiCl_4$ is acceptable allow use of incorrect number of moles from steps 2 and / or 3 alternative approaches: **approach 1:** (M_r of $TiCl_4$ =) 190(1) (40 kg $TiCl_4$ needs) $\frac{40}{190} \times 4 \times 23$ (kg Na) (1) (=) 19.4 (kg) (1) so 20 kg is an excess (1) **approach 2:** (M_r of $TiCl_4$ =) 190(1) (20 kg Na needs) $\frac{20}{4 \times 23} \times 190$ (kg $TiCl_4$) (1) (=) 41.3 (kg) (1) so 40 kg is not enough (1)	1 1 1 1	AO2 4.3.1.2 4.3.2.1 4.3.2.2 4.3.2.4

4.3.2.4 Limiting reactants (HT only)

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

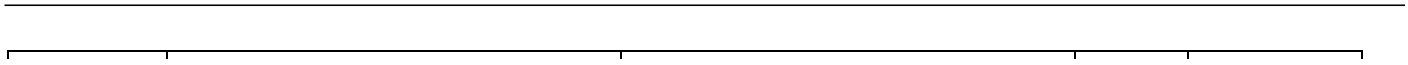
June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.8	(actual mass =) $\frac{92.3}{100} \times 13.5$ **or** (actual mass =) 0.923×13.5 = 12.5 (kg)	an answer 12.5 (kg) scores **2** marks allow 12 / 12.46 / 12.461 / 12.4605 (kg)	1 1	AO2 4.3.3.1
Total			**15**	

4.3.2.4 Limiting reactants (HT only)

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q8



4.3.2.4 Limiting reactants (HT only)

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q6

Question 6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.1	the (minimum) energy needed for particles to react **or** the (minimum) energy needed for a reaction to occur	allow the (minimum) energy needed to start a reaction	1	AO1 4.5.1.2
06.2	(M_r of Fe_2O_3 =) 160		1	AO2 4.3.1.2 4.3.2.1 4.3.2.2 4.3.2.4
	(moles $Fe_2O_3 = \frac{3000}{160}$ =) 18.75 (mol)	allow correct use of incorrectly calculated M_r	1	
	(moles Al $= \frac{1000}{27}$ =) 37.0 (mol)	allow 37.037037 (mol) correctly rounded to at least 2 significant figures if both MP2 and MP3 are not awarded allow **1** mark for 0.01875 mol Fe_2O_3 **and** 0.037 mol Al	1	
	(aluminium is limiting because) 37.0 mol is less than the (2 x 18.75 =) 37.5 mol (aluminium needed) **or** iron oxide is in excess because 18.75 mol is more than the ($\frac{37.0}{2}$ =) 18.5 mol (iron oxide needed)	allow correct use of incorrect number of moles from steps 2 and/or 3	1	

Question 6 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.2 ctd	**alternative approaches:** **approach 1:** **(finding required mass of aluminium by moles method)** (M_r of Fe_2O_3 =) 160 (1) (moles $Fe_2O_3 = \frac{3000}{160}$ =) 18.75 (mol) (1) (moles Al needed =18.75 × 2 =) 37.5 (mol) **and** (mass Al needed = 37.5 × 27 =) 1012.5 (g) **or** 1.0125 kg (1) (so) 1.00 kg of aluminium is not enough (1) **approach 2:** **(finding required mass of aluminium by proportion method)** (M_r of Fe_2O_3 =) 160 (1) (3.00 kg Fe_2O_3 needs) $\frac{3.00}{160}$ × 2 × 27 (kg Al) (1) (=) 1.0125 (kg) (1) (so) 1.00 kg of aluminium is not enough (1)	allow correct use of incorrectly calculated M_r allow correct use of incorrectly calculated moles of iron oxide allow correct use of incorrectly calculated moles of aluminium needed dependent on calculated mass of aluminium needed being greater than 1.00 (kg) allow correct use of incorrectly calculated M_r dependent on calculated mass of aluminium needed being greater than 1.00 (kg)		AO2 4.3.1.2 4.3.2.1 4.3.2.2 4.3.2.4

Question 6 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.2 ctd	**alternative approaches:** **approach 3:** **(finding required mass of iron oxide by moles method)** M_r of Fe_2O_3 =) 160 (1) (moles Al $= \frac{1000}{27}$ =) 37.0 (mol) (1) (moles Fe_2O_3 needed) $= \frac{37.0}{2}$) = 18.5 (mol) **and** (mass Fe_2O_3 needed = 18.5 × 160 =) 2960 (g) **or** 2.96 (kg) (1) (so) 3.00 kg of iron oxide is an excess (1) **approach 4:** **(finding required mass of iron oxide by proportion method)** (M_r of Fe_2O_3 =) 160 (1) (1.00 kg Al needs) $\frac{1.00}{2 \times 27} \times 160$ (kg Fe_2O_3) (1) (=) 2.96 (kg) (1) (so) 3.00 kg of iron oxide is an excess (1)	allow 37.037037 (mol) correctly rounded to at least 2 significant figures allow correct use of incorrectly calculated moles of aluminium allow correct use of incorrectly calculated moles of iron oxide needed allow correct use of incorrectly calculated M_r dependent on calculated mass of iron oxide needed being less than 3.00 (kg) allow correct use of incorrectly calculated M_r dependent on calculated mass of iron oxide needed being less than 3.00 (kg)		AO2 4.3.1.2 4.3.2.1 4.3.2.2 4.3.2.4

Question 6 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.3	$Mg(s) + Zn^{2+}(aq) \rightarrow Mg^{2+}(aq) + Zn(s)$	allow multiples allow **1** mark for $Mg^{2+} + Zn$ with missing or incorrect state symbols	2	AO2 4.1.1.1 4.2.2.2 4.4.1.4
06.4	magnesium (atoms) are oxidised because they lose electrons (and) zinc (ions) are reduced because they gain electrons	 if no other marks awarded allow **1** mark for magnesium (atoms) lose electrons and zinc (ions) gain electrons	1 1	AO2 4.4.1.4
Total			**9**	

4.3.2.4 Limiting reactants (HT only)

Answer 01 · Examiner comments

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question 8 (standard / high and high demand)

08.1 42% of students could answer this correctly. A hazard was asked for, and it was expected that students would use the correct chemical term for such a hazard; hence the idea that chlorine or carbon monoxide is **toxic** was required. Many did not use the correct term, referring instead to it being harmful (incorrect – it can kill, not merely make one ill), or dangerous or deadly (in what way?). Some students misread the equation and referred to carbon dioxide.

08.2 40**%** of students achieved the mark here. Many did not realise that their observations of a vigorous reaction with a small piece of sodium in the lab would be magnified enormously on an industrial scale. Hence the reaction would be **very** violent or explosive, not just vigorous.

08.3 There were many good attempts at this question, with 73% of students scoring at least one mark. Many students referred to the lack of reactivity of the metals with argon, but some forgot to refer to air. Then some students did not express themselves clearly, referring to one or both metals reacting with air in general, or even with gases not present in the air, such as hydrogen.

08.4 There were some excellent attempts at this difficult question, which discriminated well. 8% of students achieved full marks with 43% achieving at least one mark. Full credit could be gained by those who started with the premise that titanium chloride must be ionic so should have a high melting point; very few started from the true situation, which is that titanium chloride must exist as small molecules as its melting point is low.

The mark that was scored least often was for the explanation of the bonding and how it leads to the actual, or predicted, melting point. Some spoiled an otherwise good description of ionic bonding by also referring to ‘strong intermolecular forces’. Many referred to ‘strong electrostatic forces’ but failed to mention that those forces were between ions.

A significant number of students answered solely in terms of the separate elements, particularly titanium, rather than the compound.

08.5 51% of students achieved the mark for this question. Whilst the definition of oxidation in terms of electrons is well known, the question asked why **this** reaction is oxidation. So, it was necessary to refer to the sodium atoms losing electrons rather than giving a generalised answer. Some students referred to ‘it’ losing electrons, without specifying what ‘it’ referred to, while others referred to oxygen, which is not present.

08.6 54% of students achieved the mark here. It was not uncommon to see ‘$-e^-$’ on the right hand side. A significant number of incorrect responses showed the formation of a doubly charged sodium ion.

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Answer 01 · Examiner comments June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

08.7 This difficult unstructured calculation tested a new area of the specification, and discriminated very well. 74% of students were able to achieve at least one mark, usually for calculating the M_r of $TiCl_4$. 7% of students achieved all four marks, with 12% achieving at least three marks and there were some valiant efforts.

Common errors were:

- using 92 instead of 23 to calculate the number of moles of Na
- omitting the unit conversion from kg to g for the mole calculations
- using the 1:4 mole ratio incorrectly or not at all.

Also, it is not appropriate to leave answers in the form of a fraction, even if this is the default on their calculator. Answers should always be converted to decimal form.

08.8 This was well answered, with 74% of students achieving both marks. A few forgot the 100 in their expression and didn't realise they were making about 1000 kg more than the theoretical maximum.

4.3.2.4 Limiting reactants (HT only)

Answer 02 · Examiner comments November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q6

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

06.1 Most students were able to express the idea that activation energy is the minimum energy required to start a reaction. One common error was to say that it is the energy needed to make particles collide.

06.2 A variety of approaches was seen. The majority of students calculated the number of moles of both aluminium and of iron oxide and then attempted with varying degrees of success to explain why the number of moles of aluminium was insufficient for the iron oxide. Common errors were to omit to convert the mass from kilograms to grams, and/or using 54 as the 'M_r' of aluminium. Of those who did correctly calculate the number of moles of each reactant, some had difficulty in expressing clearly the idea of 2 moles of aluminium being needed to react with 1 mole of iron oxide, and therefore 37.0 moles of aluminium is less than the 37.5 moles required, or that 18.75 moles of iron oxide is more than the 18.5 moles required. Other students started with the mass of one reagent and calculated the required mass of the other, either by the moles method or by proportion. These students found it easier to express why there was insufficient aluminium or excess iron oxide.

06.3 Few students scored both marks. Aqueous zinc was often seen as a response. Many students did not understand the idea of an ionic equation and tried to include the sulfate ion.

06.4 Only a third of students scored both marks, but a lot of students were confused about which species gained electrons and which lost them. Definitions of oxidation and reduction in terms of gain and loss of oxygen were not appropriate here and were not credited.