AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.3.2.5

Concentration of solutions

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**15**
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.

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 01 · Mark scheme June 2007 | CHY1B | Original Q4 | Legacy

Four	**3**	**4**	**2**	**3**

Answer 02 · Mark scheme January 2008 | CHY3H | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	smooth curve through all points over full range finishing between 6.4 and 5.4 at 50°C		1

Answer 03 · Mark scheme June 2009 | CHY1AP | Original Q8 | Legacy

Eight	**3**	**2**	**3**	**1**

Answer 04 · Mark scheme June 2010 | CHY1AP | Original Q7 | Legacy

Seven	**2**	**3**	**3**	**1**

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)	the ions can move / travel / flow / are free **or** the ions carry the charge / current	accept particles / they for ions allow delocalised ions ignore delocalised / free electrons ignore references to collisions accept converse with reference to solid ignore ions carry electricity	1
1(b)	any **one** from: • because they are negative / anion • opposite charges / attract	allow Cl^- ignore chlorine	1
1(c)	13		1
1(d)(i)	reasonable attempt at straight line which misses the anomalous point	must touch all five crosses do **not** allow multiple lines	1
1(d)(ii)	40	ignore 2.2	1

Question 1 continues on the next page

CHY2H

Question 1 contd

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(d)(iii)	any **two** sensible errors from: • gas escapes • weighing error • error in measuring (volume / amount) of hydrogen • error in measuring (volume / amount) of water • incorrect concentration • timing error • change in voltage / current • change in temperature • recording / plotting error	ignore systematic / human / apparatus / zero /experimental / random / measurement / reading errors unless qualified allow NaCl not measured correctly allow error in measuring volume / scale for **1** mark if neither hydrogen or water mentioned allow NaCl not fully dissolved **or** spilled **or** impure allow faulty power supply	2
1(d)(iv)	any **one** from: • repeat the experiment • results compared with results from /other students / other groups / other laboratories / internet / literature. • results compared with another method	ignore 'do more tests'	1
1(d)(v)	increases owtte	allow directly proportional or positive correlation allow rate / it is faster / quicker	1
Total			**9**

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

January 2011 | CHY2H | Original Q1 | Legacy

CHY2H

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

Question 5

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(a)(i)		incorrect test or no test = **0** mark testing the solution **or** using blue litmus = **0** mark	
	(test ammonia / gas with red) litmus	accept any acid-base indicator with correct result	1
	(goes) blue		1
	OR		
	(conc.) HCl (1)		
	white fumes / smoke / solid (1)	allow white gas / vapour	
	OR		
	(test ammonia / gas with) Universal Indicator (1)		
	blue / purple (1)		
5(a)(ii)		incorrect test or no test = **0** marks	
	add barium chloride / $BaCl_2$ (solution) **or** add barium nitrate / $Ba(NO_3)_2$ (solution)	do **not** accept H_2SO_4 added allow Ba^{2+} solution / aqueous added	1
	white precipitate / solid (formed)	allow white barium sulfate / $BaSO_4$ ignore barium sulfate / $BaSO_4$ alone	1
5(b)(i)	fully / completely ionised / dissociated **or** hydrogen ions fully dissociated	accept has more ions than weaker acid / alkali of same concentration ignore strongly ionised do **not** accept ions are fully ionised ignore concentrated **or** reference to concentrations of ions	1

Question 5 continues on the next page

Question 5 continued

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(b)(ii)	methyl orange	accept correct spelling only accept any strong acid-weak base indicator do **not** allow phenolphthalein / litmus / universal indicator	1
5(b)(iii)	32 × 0.05/1000 **or** 0.0016 (mole H_2SO_4) (reacts with) 2 × 0.0016 **or** 0.0032 (mole NH_3 in $25cm^3$) (0.0032 × 1000/25 =) 0.128	accept (0.05 x 32) = (V x 25) **or** 0.05 x 32 / 25 accept dividing rhs by 2 **or** multiplying lhs by 2 allow ecf from previous stage correct answer 0.128 **or** 0.13 with or without working gains all **3** marks	1 1 1
5(b)(iv)	2.176 **or** 2.18 **or** ecf from candidate's answer to (b)(iii) **or** 2.55 if 0.15 moles used	correct answer with or without working if answer incorrect or no answer 0.128 × 17 **or** 0.13 x 17 **or** their (b)(iii) × 17 **or** 0.15 × 17 gains **1** mark	2
Total			**11**

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | CHY3H | Original Q5 | Legacy

CHY3H

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

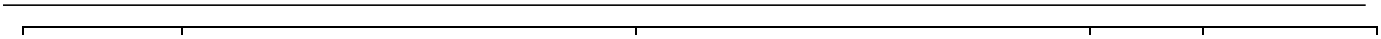
Answer 07 · Mark scheme June 2015 | CH3HP | Original Q7 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
7(a)	**X:** Fe^{2+} / iron(II), SO_4^{2-} / sulfate	allow iron(II) sulfate **or** $FeSO_4$	1	**AO1/ AO2** 3.4.1.a/c/e/f
	Y: Na^+ / sodium, I^- / iodide	allow sodium iodide **or** NaI	1	
	Z: Fe^{3+} **/** iron(III), Br^- / bromide	allow iron(III) bromide **or** $FeBr_3$	1	
		correct identification of any two ions = one mark correct identification of any four ions = two marks		
7(b)	any **five** from: method 1 • weighing is accurate • not all barium sulfate may be precipitated • precipitate may be lost • precipitate may not be dry • takes longer • requires energy method 2 • accurate • works for low concentrations	allow converse arguments allow not all the barium hydroxide has reacted allow reliable / precise	5	**AO3** 3.4.1.a/c/e/f
Total			**8**	

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH3HP | Original Q7 | Legacy



4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	polystyrene is a better (thermal) insulator (so) reduces energy exchange (with the surroundings)	allow polystyrene is a poorer (thermal) conductor allow (so) reduces energy / heat loss (to the surroundings)	1 1	AO3 4.5.1.1
09.2	all six points plotted correctly line of best fit through points plotted from Table 6 both lines of best fit extrapolated correctly until they cross	allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square allow **1** mark for at least 3 points plotted correctly	2 1 1	AO2 4.5.1.1
09.3	11 (cm^3)	allow ecf from question **09.2** allow answers in the range 10.75 to 11.25 (cm^3) allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square	1	AO2 4.5.1.1
09.4	(27.5 – 18.9) = 8.6 (°C)	allow ecf from question **09.2** allow answers in the range 8.5 to 8.7 (°C) allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square	1	AO2 4.5.1.1

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5		an answer of 0.62 (mol/dm^3) for concentration in mol/dm^3 scores **4** marks an answer of 0.31 (mol/dm^3) for concentration in mol/dm^3 scores **3** marks		AO2/2 4.3.1.2 4.3.2.5 4.3.4 4.4.2.5
	(moles H_2SO_4 = 0.500 × $\frac{15.5}{1000}$) = 0.00775		1	
	(moles KOH = 2 x moles H_2SO_4 = 2 x 0.00775) = 0.0155	allow correct calculation using incorrectly calculated value of moles of H_2SO_4	1	
	(conc KOH = moles KOH x $\frac{1000}{25.0}$) = 0.0155 x $\frac{1000}{25.0}$	allow correct calculation using incorrectly calculated value of moles of KOH	1	
	= 0.62 (mol/dm^3)	allow correct answer using incorrectly calculated value of moles of KOH	1	
	(M_r KOH =) 56		1	
	(conc = M_r x conc in mol/dm^3 = 56 x 0.62) = 34.7 (g/dm^3)	allow 35 or 34.72 (g/dm^3) allow correct answer using incorrectly calculated value of concentration in mol/dm^3 and/or incorrect M_r	1	
	alternative approach for step 1 to step 4 $\frac{2}{1} = \frac{25 \times \text{conc KOH}}{15.5 \times 0.500}$ (2) (conc KOH) = $\frac{2 \times 15.5 \times 0.500}{25.0}$ (1) = 0.62 (mol/dm^3) (1)	allow **1** mark if mole ratio is incorrect		

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Total			**14**

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q3

Question 3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.1	(total) mass before = 156.76 (g) **and** (total) mass after = 156.76 (g) **or** increase in mass of beaker **A** and contents = 29.96 (g) **and** decrease in mass of beaker **B** and contents = 29.96 (g) (so) the mass of products equals the mass of the reactants **or** (so) there is no change in mass during the reaction	allow 78.26 + 78.50 = 156.76 **and** 108.22 + 48.54 = 156.76 allow 108.22 – 78.26 = 29.96 **and** 48.54 – 78.50 = – 29.96 allow (so) no atoms were lost or made during the reaction	1 1	AO2 AO1 4.3.1.1
03.2	filter / filtration	allow a description of filtration	1	AO2 4.1.1.2
03.3	sodium nitrate (solution) **or** silver nitrate (solution) **or** sodium iodide (solution)	allow correct formulae allow sodium / nitrate / silver / iodide ions	1	AO2 4.1.1.2
03.4	to remove / evaporate the water	allow to dry (the solid)	1	AO3 4.1.1.2

Question 3 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.5	(total M_r = 170 + 150) = 320	allow (235 + 85) = 320	1	AO2 4.3.3.2
	(% atom economy =) $\frac{235}{320} \times 100$	allow correct use of incorrectly calculated total M_r	1	
	= 73.4375 (%)		1	
	= 73.4 (%)	allow an answer correctly calculated to 3 significant figures from an incorrect percentage calculation which uses the values in the question	1	
03.6	any **one** from: • for sustainable development • for economic reasons • to produce a high(er) percentage of useful product	allow to reduce waste	1	AO1 4.3.3.2
Total			**10**	

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	didn't stir (the solution enough)	allow measured the temperature before the temperature stopped falling allow measured the temperature too soon	1	AO3 4.5.1.1 RPA 4
09.2	the temperature decreases (initially) because energy is taken in (by the reaction from the solution)	allow temperature decreases (initially) because the reaction is endothermic	1	AO2 AO3 4.5.1.1 RPA 4
	when 1.5 g (of citric acid) is added the sodium hydrogencarbonate has all reacted **or** from 1.5 g the citric acid is in excess **or** when 1.5 g (of citric acid) is added the reaction is complete	allow when the temperature reaches 11.6 °C the sodium hydrogencarbonate has all reacted allow after the temperature reaches 11.6 °C the citric acid is in excess allow when the temperature reaches 11.6 °C the reaction is complete	1	
	(so) the temperature increases as energy is transferred from the room to the solution	allow (so) the temperature increases as energy is transferred from the excess citric acid to the solution	1	

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	less steep line starting at 16.8 °C **and** reaching 1.00 g (of citric acid)	ignore any part of the line drawn beyond 1.00 g	1	AO3 4.2.2.8 4.5.1.1 RPA 4
	(as) metal is a better conductor	allow (as) polystyrene is a better insulator	1	
	(so) more energy is absorbed (from the surroundings)	allow (so) more heat is absorbed (from the surroundings)	1	
09.4	(M_r citric acid =) 192		1	AO2 4.3.2.5 4.3.4
	(moles = $\frac{250}{1000}$ × 0.0500) = 0.0125		1	
	(mass = 0.0125 × 192 =) 2.4 (g)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated M_r allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated number of moles	1	
	alternative approach:			
	(M_r citric acid =) 192 (1)			
	(concentration = 0.0500 × 192) = 9.6 (g/dm^3) (1)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated M_r		
	(mass = $\frac{250}{1000}$ × 9.6 =) 2.4 (g) (1)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated concentration in g/dm^3		

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5	add the citric acid (to the flask) until there is a (permanent) colour change	ignore colours of indicator	1	AO1 4.4.2.5 RPA 2
	measure / record the volume (of citric acid) added	allow take the final (and initial) burette reading	1	
	any **one** from: • swirl • use a white tile • add the citric acid dropwise (near the end-point) • repeat **and** calculate a mean	allow add the citric acid slowly (near the end-point)	1	
09.6	any **two** from: • can add (the citric acid) in small increments • can measure variable volumes • more accurate than a measuring cylinder	allow can add (the citric acid) drop by drop allow can add (the citric acid) slowly allow has a scale	2	AO1 4.4.2.5 RPA 2

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.7	(moles citric acid = $\frac{13.3}{1000}$ × 0.0500) = 0.000665		1	AO2 4.3.4 4.4.2.5 RPA 2
	(moles NaOH = 3 × 0.000665) = 0.001995	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated number of moles of citric acid	1	
	(conc = $\frac{1000}{25}$ × 0.001995) = 0.0798 (mol/dm^3)	allow 0.08 or 0.080 (mol/dm^3) allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated number of moles of NaOH	1	
	alternative approach: $\frac{25.0 \times \text{conc NaOH}}{13.3 \times 0.0500} = \frac{3}{1}$ (1) (conc NaOH =) 3 × $\frac{13.3 \times 0.0500}{25.0}$ (1) = 0.0798 (mol/dm^3) (1)	allow $\frac{13.3 \times 0.0500}{25.0 \times \text{conc NaOH}} = \frac{1}{3}$ allow 0.08 or 0.080 (mol/dm^3)		

Total			18

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 11 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	a dilute solution of a strong acid		1	AO2 4.3.2.5 4.4.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.2	1.0 mol/dm^3 hydrogen chloride solution		1	AO2 4.4.2.4 4.4.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	any **two** from: • swirl (the solution) • white tile (under the flask) • add (ethanedioic) acid dropwise (near the endpoint) • repeat **and** calculate mean		2	AO3 4.4.2.5 RPA2

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	(concentration = 90 × 0.0480 =) 4.32 (g/dm^3)		1	AO2 4.3.2.1 4.3.2.5 4.3.4
	(mass = 4.32 × $\frac{250}{1000}$) = 1.08 (g)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated value of concentration in g/dm^3	1	
	alternative approach: (moles = 0.0480 × $\frac{250}{1000}$ =) 0.012 (mol) (1)			
	(mass = 0.012 × 90) = 1.08 (g) (1)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated value of number of moles		

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5	(moles $H_2C_2O_4 = \frac{15.0}{1000} \times 0.0480$) = 0.00072 (mol)		1	AO2 4.3.4 4.4.2.5 RPA2
	(moles NaOH = moles $H_2C_2O_4 \times 2$ =) 0.00144 (mol)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated value of number of moles of $H_2C_2O_4$	1	
	(concentration= $\frac{0.00144}{25.0} \times 1000$) = 0.0576 ($mol/dm^3$)	allow 0.058 (mol/dm^3) allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated value of number of moles of NaOH	1	
	alternative approach: $\frac{\text{volume} \times \text{conc (acid)}}{\text{volume} \times \text{conc (NaOH)}} = \frac{1}{2}$ (1)	allow inverse		
	(conc NaOH =) $2 \times \frac{15.0 \times 0.0480}{25.0}$ (1)	allow correct use of incorrect mole ratio		
	= 0.0576 (mol/dm^3) (1)			

Total			9

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	(sulfur is a) precipitate / solid **or** (sulfur is an) insoluble substance		1	AO2 4.6.1.2 RPA5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2 View with Figure 7	correctly drawn tangent at 30 s		1	AO2 4.6.1.1 RPA5
	correct values for *x* step **and** *y* step from tangent	allow correct use of an incorrectly drawn tangent allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square for each coordinate	1	
	(ratio =) $\frac{\text{value for y step}}{\text{value for x step}}$	allow correct use of incorrectly determined values from tangent for *x* step and/or *y* step	1	
	correct calculation of ratio		1	
	(conversion rate = ratio × 7.1 × 10^{-5}) correct evaluation of rate (mol/s)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated ratio	1	

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3	rate decreases (because) concentration of reactants decreases **alternative approach:** greatest rate at start (1) (because) greatest concentration of reactants at start (1)	allow the collision frequency decreases allow the collision frequency is highest at the start	1 1	AO2 4.6.1.1 4.6.1.2 RPA5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	(hydrochloric) acid is used up	allow (hydrochloric) acid is the limiting reactant ignore reactants used up	1	AO3 4.3.2.4 4.6.1.2 RPA5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5 View with Figure 8	decreasing curve starting at (0,95) **and** steeper initially than curve for 0.10 mol/dm^3 sodium thiosulfate solution levelling at 24%		1 1	AO2 4.6.1.2 RPA5

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.6	stop light from other sources reaching the light sensor		1	AO3 4.6.1.2 RPA5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.7	repeatable		1	AO3 4.6.1.2 RPA5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.8	$V \propto m$		1	AO2 4.6.1.2

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.9 View with Figure 9	volume of sodium thiosulfate solution **and** volume of hydrochloric acid at any fixed mass	allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square for volume readings	1	AO2 4.6.1.2
	$\left(\frac{\text{volume of } Na_2S_2O_3 \text{ solution}}{\text{volume of hydrochloric acid}} = \right)$ 0.25	allow $\left(\frac{\text{volume of hydrochloric acid}}{\text{volume of } Na_2S_2O_3 \text{ solution}} = \right)$ 4 allow correct use of incorrectly determined volumes	1	
	1 : 4		1	

Total Question 8		17

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	(the acid is only) partially ionised (in aqueous solution)		1	AO1 4.4.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.2	the mass of acid dissolved is doubled and the volume of the solution is halved		1	AO2 4.3.2.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.3	methyl orange from yellow to red / orange / pink **OR** phenolphthalein (1) from pink to colourless (1) **OR** litmus (1) from blue to red (1)	MP2 is dependent on the award of MP1 if no other marks awarded, allow **1** mark for universal indicator turns from purple / blue to green / yellow / orange / red	1 1	AO1 4.4.2.5 RPA2

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.4	OH^-		1	AO1 4.4.2.4

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.5	(moles Na_2CO_3 = $\frac{25.0}{1000}$ × 0.124) = 0.0031(0)		1	AO2 4.3.4 4.4.2.5 RPA2
	(moles HNO_3 = 2 × 0.0031(0)) = 0.0062(0)	allow correct use of an incorrectly determined number of moles of Na_2CO_3	1	
	(concentration =) $\frac{0.0062(0)}{23.6}$ ×1000	allow correct use of an incorrectly determined number of moles of HNO_3	1	
	= 0.262711864		1	
	= 0.263 (mol/dm^3)	allow an answer correctly rounded to 3 significant figures from an incorrect calculation which uses all the data in the question	1	
	alternative approach:			
	$\left(\text{ratio } \frac{\text{moles } HNO_3}{\text{moles } Na_2CO_3} = \right)$	allow inverted expression		
	$\frac{2}{1} = \frac{23.6 \times \text{concentration}}{25.0 \times 0.124}$ (2)	allow **1** mark for the expression with an incorrect mole ratio		
	(concentration =) $\frac{2 \times 25.0 \times 0.124}{23.6}$ (1)	allow correct use of the expression with an incorrect mole ratio		
	= 0.262711864 (1)			
	= 0.263 (mol/dm^3) (1)	allow an answer correctly rounded to 3 significant figures from an incorrect calculation which uses all the data in the question		

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.6	3.16×10^{-3} (mol/dm^3)		1	AO2 4.4.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.7	argon / Ar		1	AO2 4.1.2.4 4.2.1.2

Total Question 5	**12**

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/2H | Original Q1

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	(test) flame test (result) yellow (flame) **OR** (test) flame emission spectroscopy (1) (result) lines match sodium spectrum (1)	 allow FES	1 1	AO1 4.8.3.1 RPA7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.2	(test) (add acidified) silver nitrate (solution) (result) white precipitate	 MP2 is dependent upon the award of MP1	1 1	AO1 4.8.3.4 RPA7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3	to ensure that all the water has evaporated		1	AO3 4.10.1.2 RPA8

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.4	mass of evaporating dish and dry contents − mass of empty evaporating dish		1	AO1 4.10.1.2 RPA8

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 14 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/2H | Original Q1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.5	(mean concentration of NaCl =) $\frac{35.2 + 34.6 + 36.4 + 33.8}{4}$ **or** $\frac{140}{4}$ = 35.0 (g/dm^3)	allow **1** mark for $\frac{35.2 + 34.6 + 33.8}{3} = 34.5$	1 1	AO2 4.10.1.2 RPA8
	(mean concentration of Na$^+$ =) $35.0 \times \frac{39.3}{100}$	allow correct use of an incorrectly determined mean concentration of sodium chloride	1	
	= 13.8 (g/dm^3)	allow 13.755 correctly rounded to at least 3 significant figures	1	
	alternative approach 1:			
	(total concentration of NaCl = 35.2 + 34.6 + 36.4 + 33.8 = 140 total concentration of Na+ =) $140 \times \frac{39.3}{100}$ (1) = 55.02 (g/dm^3) (1)	allow **1** mark for (35.2 + 34.6 + 33.8 = 103.6) $103.6 \times \frac{39.3}{100} = 40.71$		
	(mean concentration of Na$^+$ =) $\frac{55.02}{4}$ (1) =13.8 (g/dm^3) (1)	allow correct use of an incorrectly determined total concentration of Na$^+$ allow 13.755 correctly rounded to at least 3 significant figures		

	alternative approach 2: (concentrations of Na^+ =) $35.2 \times \frac{39.3}{100}$ $34.6 \times \frac{39.3}{100}$ $36.4 \times \frac{39.3}{100}$ $33.8 \times \frac{39.3}{100}$ (1) = 13.83 13.60 14.31 13.28 (1) (mean concentration of Na^+ =) $\frac{13.83 + 13.60 + 14.31 + 13.28}{4}$ (1) =13.8 (g/dm^3) (1)	allow **1** mark if a concentration of 36.4 is treated as an anomaly and not used allow correct use of incorrectly determined concentration(s) of Na^+ allow 13.755 correctly rounded to at least 3 significant figures		

Total Question 1	**10**

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8462/2H | Original Q1

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	(a burette is) more accurate (than a measuring cylinder)	allow (a burette has) a higher resolution ignore precise	1	AO3 4.10.1.2 RPA8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.2	the mass of (dissolved) solids		1	AO1 4.10.1.2 RPA8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3	reheat (the evaporating basin and contents) (and reweigh) until constant mass	 allow for **2** marks heat to constant mass	1 1	AO3 4.10.1.2 RPA8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.4	subtract the mass of the (empty) evaporating basin from the mass of the evaporating basin and contents (at the end of the experiment)	allow subtract initial mass from the final mass	1	AO1 4.10.1.2 RPA8

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.5	(allow mean mass =) $\frac{0.35 + 0.37 + 0.33 + 0.34}{4}$	(allow mean mass =) $\frac{1.39}{4}$	1	AO2 4.3.2.5 4.10.1.2 RPA8
	= 0.3475 (g)		1	
	(conversion 10 cm^3 =) 0.01 dm^3		1	
	(mean concentration =) $\frac{0.3475}{0.01}$	allow correct use of incorrectly determined mean mass allow correct use of incorrect / no conversion of volume	1	
	= 34.75 (g/dm^3)	allow 34.75 (g/dm^3) correctly rounded to at least 2 significant figures	1	
	alternative approach 1 (conversion 10 cm^3 =) 0.01 dm^3 (1)			
	(concentrations =) $\frac{0.35}{0.01}$ $\frac{0.37}{0.01}$ $\frac{0.33}{0.01}$ $\frac{0.34}{0.01}$ (1)	allow correct use of incorrect / no conversion of volume		
	= 35 37 33 34 (1)			
	(mean concentration =) $\frac{35 + 37 + 33 + 34}{4}$ (1)	(allow mean concentration =) $\frac{139}{4}$ allow correct use of incorrectly determined concentrations		
	= 34.75 (g/dm^3) (1)	allow 34.75 (g/dm^3) correctly rounded to at least 2 significant figures		

	alternative approach 2 using total mass and total volume (total mass = 0.35 + 0.37 + 0.33 + 0.34 =) 1.39 (g) (1) (total volume = 10 + 10 + 10 + 10 =) 40 cm^3 (1) (conversion 40 cm^3 =) 0.04 dm^3 (1) (mean concentration =) $\frac{1.39}{0.04}$ (1) = 34.75 (g/dm^3) (1)	 allow correct use of incorrectly determined total mass allow correct use of incorrect / no conversion of total volume allow 34.75 (g/dm^3) correctly rounded to at least 2 significant figures		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.6	the samples were taken from different places		1	AO3 4.10.1.2

Total Question 1	**11**

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 08 · Examiner comments

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9 (standard, standard / high and high demand)

09.1 Almost a half of students scored 0 marks.

The mark scheme required the use of comparatives.

Common correct responses were:

- Better insulator
- Less heat loss

Common responses seen that were not credited included:

- good insulator
- no heat loss.

09.2 This graph question was well answered with approximately half of students scoring full marks.

Some students attempted to draw a straight line of best fit. In most cases, this was inappropriate.

Some students did not draw their line so that the two lines of best fit crossed. Instead, they drew a curved peak.

09.3 Approximately 60% of students were able to determine the neutralisation point from their graph.

In some cases, students misunderstood the scale of the x-axis, for example, reading 11 cm^3 as 10.1 cm^3.

09.4 Only approximately a third of students correctly determined the overall temperature change for the reaction from their graph.

A common incorrect answer was 8.2 °C (from subtraction of the highest and lowest temperature values in the table).

09.5 Students found this titration calculation difficult and approximately a third of students scored 0 marks.

The marks for calculating the number of moles of sulfuric acid and for calculating the relative formula mass of potassium hydroxide were the most scored. Even when these values were incorrect, this did not prevent students from gaining marks in subsequent steps.

The correct answer for the concentration in mol/dm^3 was achieved more often than the subsequent conversion to g/dm^3. A common error was to use a conversion factor of 112 (2 × M_r(KOH)) rather than 56.

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 08 · Examiner comments

Use of statistics

Statistics used in this report may be taken from incomplete processing data. However, this data still gives a true account on how students have performed for each question.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 09 · Examiner comments

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q3

Question 3 (standard demand)

03.1 Many students failed to recognise or state that a reaction was taking place, merely referring to changes in mass on mixing. Some did not use the data in the question, as was required. Many students appeared to confuse conservation of mass with conservation of energy.

03.2 Most students realised that filtration would obtain the solid. Crystallisation was a commonly seen incorrect response.

03.3 Many students gave the answer 'sodium' as opposed to sodium nitrate, sodium iodide or sodium ions. Dust and bacteria were not uncommon responses.

03.4 Many students did not realise that heating was simply to dry the silver iodide, by evaporating off the water from the previous step.

03.5 This calculation was well done, although some students added up all four values of M_r instead of just those of the reactants.

03.6 Most answered correctly in terms of profitability, or reduction of waste. There was some confusion between atom economy and percentage yield.

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 10 · Examiner comments

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9 (standard, standard / high and high demand)

09.1 A third of students scored this mark; some realised that the most likely error was lack of stirring; fewer suggested that the temperature was measured too early, before the temperature had stopped falling. Many suggestions contradicted the information given.

09.2 Students had great difficulty in expressing their answers using correct terminology, often using energy and temperature interchangeably. They generally find endothermic reactions difficult; they do not seem to realise that the energy taken in is not staying as thermal energy but is being converted to chemical energy. Some students gained the mark for saying that the temperature initially falls because energy is being taken in, showing an endothermic reaction. A few noted that when 1.5 g of citric acid had been added the reaction had finished and that the citric acid was in excess from there on. However, it was very rare for a correct explanation for the subsequent rise in temperature to be given. Some thought the reaction suddenly became exothermic, or that it suddenly reversed (showing a lack of understanding of reversible reactions).

09.3 Many students realised that the difference was due to the better thermal conductivity of the metal. However, many of those merely referred to the metal as a good conductor, without comparing the metal to polystyrene. The majority of students drew a steeper line, stating that the metal would lose heat more quickly. Of those who drew the correct shallower line, few could explain that the metal would conduct thermal energy in from the surroundings more quickly, reducing the temperature drop in this endothermic reaction.

09.4 Many students were able to score all three marks. Common errors were to confuse concentration with number of moles and to fail to convert 250 cm^3 to 0.25 dm^3 correctly. The symbol ‘m’ for number of moles was commonly seen instead of ‘n’ – students consequently became confused between mass and number of moles. Students who set out their working step by step were able to gain partial credit, but those who simply had a jumble of numbers, with no explanation as to what the numbers represented, were not.

09.5 Most students scored at least two marks Some students referred to ‘amount’ of acid added rather than volume, and many failed to take any burette readings at all. It was not uncommon to see a conical flask placed ‘under’ a white tile rather than on one.

09.6 This was not well answered. Most students who scored a mark did so for stating that the acid could be added drop by drop, or that the rate of flow could be controlled. Few stated that the burette could measure variable volumes (unlike a pipette). Many stated that a burette was ‘more accurate’ but did not say what they were comparing it to. Of those who

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 10 · Examiner comments November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

did, most said it was more accurate than a pipette, which is not true. Some students confused a volumetric pipette with a dropping pipette.

09.7 This titration calculation was well done by many students. To gain full credit, working needed to be correct as well as the final answer. Students therefore need to show their working step by step in a way that can be followed by the examiner. Common errors were to omit to convert volumes to dm^3, to attempt to do so but incorrectly, or to omit the mole ratio of citric acid to sodium hydroxide. As with question 09.4, students who incorrectly used the symbol ‘m’ to mean moles often confused themselves; they should be encouraged to use ‘m’ only for mass, and ‘n’ for number of moles.

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 10 · Examiner comments

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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

Answer 11 · Examiner comments

November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9 (standard, standard / high and high demand)

09.3 Many students included reading the bottom of the meniscus at eye level; this is just normal technique rather than an improvement to the method given. Many suggested repeating the titration, but this is pointless unless a mean of the accurate results is taken.

09.4 As with other calculations, students often failed to explain what they were doing, which made it difficult for the examiners to award partial credit. Numbers were scattered around without helpful words such as 'moles =' or 'mass ='. Although most students convert the volume of a solution to dm^3 for a titration calculation, far fewer did in this calculation, so their calculated number of moles was 1000 times the correct value.

09.5 Many students were successful at this straightforward titration calculation. Most used the mole ratio, although some tried to apply this to concentrations or volumes rather than moles. Some students tried to bring relative formula mass into their calculation.

Concluding Remarks

The paper was broadly comparable with previous papers. Students did poorly on the questions on ionic bonding and electrolysis but performed well on the question on extraction of metals. There continues to be a lack of precision when recalling definitions and other statements from the specification.

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 11 · Examiner comments

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 12 · Examiner comments

June 2022 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

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

08.1 The majority of the students recognised that the solution became cloudy due to one of the products being a precipitate / solid.

08.2 The large majority of the students were able to draw a tangent at 30 seconds.
The construction lines used to determine the values of Δ*y* and Δ*x* were less well done.
Some students appeared to have difficulty reading the scales on each of the axes.

Students should be aware that using very small portions of the graph for this type of calculation (and also in the ratio calculation in **08.9**) potentially limits the accuracy of their final answer.

Most students who determined the values of Δ*y* and Δ*x* went on to determine the correct ratio. The better responses then continued to use the ratio to determine the rate in mol/s. One-fifth of the students gained all five marks, whilst over half scored four, most often as a result of not using the factor 7.1×10^{-5} correctly.

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 12 · Examiner comments June 2022 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

08.3 Most students recognised that the rate of reaction decreased as the reaction proceeded but a significant proportion of these students did not gain the second mark because they referred to the concentration of unspecified substances rather than stating that the concentration of the reactants decreases. Nearly one-third of students gained both of these marks.

08.4 Some students made an insufficient general statement about reactants being used up. However a larger number mentioned the acid being used up. Few used the term limiting reactant. Over a third of students gained this mark.

08.5 Just over a third of students scored two marks on this question, understanding the meaning of a sketch graph. Others realised the gradient needed to be steeper for the sketch but did not level the line at 24%.

A sizeable minority had the sketch with a shallower gradient. Such a sketch seldom levelled out at 24%.

08.6 More than 80% of the students were able to identify the required improvement.

08.7 Just under half of the students gained the mark for this multiple choice question. Reproducible was a very common incorrect response.

08.8 Around 70% of the students were able to identify the expression representing the relationship between volume and mass.

08.9 Around half of the students gained all three marks. Students were usually able to find the smallest whole number ratio once they had determined the volumes. Students often did not indicate on the graph where the volumes were from, but this was not an actual requirement, just an aid to answering the question. Many chose the limits of the lines, i.e. 120 and 480 cm^3 respectively.

Students should be aware that using very small portions of the graph for this type of calculation (and also in the rate calculation in **08.2**) potentially reduces the accuracy of their final answer. Many answers of 6:25 were seen and awarded credit because the error in reading the graph values was within half a small square.

Some students used two masses of sulfur rather than the volumes of each reactant and therefore did not gain any marks.

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 12 · Examiner comments

June 2022 | 8462/2H | Original Q8

Use of statistics

Statistics used in this report may be taken from incomplete processing data. However, this data still gives a true account of how students have performed for each question.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 13 · Examiner comments June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

Question 5 (standard, standard/high and high demand)

05.1 More than half of the students were able to state that a weak acid is one which is only partially ionised or dissociated in aqueous solution. Common incorrect responses were

Answer 13 · Examiner comments

that the acid is partially ionising (it does not ionise other species) or that hydrogen ions are ionised (it is the acid molecule which ionises to form H^+ ions). Attempted responses in terms of pH were not accepted.

05.2 The great majority of students gave the correct response. The most common distractor was the mass of acid dissolved is halved and the volume of the solution is doubled, which would decrease the concentration. The other two options would not change the concentration.

05.3 Fewer than a third of students could recall the name of an appropriate indicator and the correct colour change from this required practical. Any single acid-base indicator was allowed, with its associated colour change. Phenolphthalein was the most popular choice of indicator; with phonetic spellings accepted. The colour change was often the wrong way round, as acid is being added to the alkali, and some students described the final colour incorrectly as 'clear' rather than colourless.

05.4 About three fifths of students knew that the OH^- ion is responsible. When asked for a formula, an equation is not an appropriate response.

05.5 This question discriminated very well. Some scaffolding was given to help the students and bring the demand of the question down. This resulted in two fifths of students scoring full marks on the question and nearly three quarters scoring at least one mark.

Some intermediate marks were not awarded because students didn't convert the volume into dm^3 when calculating the number of moles of sodium carbonate. A second mark was then often not awarded in calculating the concentration of nitric acid because students divided by a volume in cm^3 instead of dm^3. Those students who tried to bring relative formula masses into the calculation (when no data had been given to enable them to do so) rarely scored more than two marks; one for applying the mole ratio and one for rounding an answer to 3 significant figures if all the data supplied had been used.

A few students did not use the method suggested, but used a ratio method instead. On this occasion full credit was given to these answers. However, students should be aware that purely mathematical methods, which do not demonstrate an understanding of the chemical principles, are not always appropriate.

05.6 Over a third of students scored the mark in this high demand question. As the pH has decreased by a factor of 2, the concentration of hydrogen ions increases by a factor of 10^2. However, many students did not realise this and attempted to calculate a concentration by applying a linear, instead of logarithmic, scale factor. Some students divided by 100 instead of multiplying.

05.7 Only two fifths of the students worked out that the element must be argon. Sulfur was a popular incorrect response (one electron subtracted instead of added), but other halogens were also popular.

4.3.2.5 Concentration of solutions

Answer 14 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/2H | Original Q1

Question 1 (standard demand)

01.1 This question was generally well answered by students, with around 60% of the entry gaining both marks.

The specific test and correct result were well known. The most common incorrect responses were a flame not being mentioned and the incorrect flame colour, particularly orange or crimson.

The alternative method of gaining the marks using flame emission spectroscopy was very seldom seen.

01.2 The test for chlorine was not well known. Just over one-third of students gained both marks. If an acid was mentioned it was almost always nitric acid.

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Answer 14 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/2H | Original Q1

Some other tests were chosen with the most common incorrect responses being the addition of barium chloride or sodium hydroxide. A number of students mentioned the test for chlorine gas rather than chloride ions and described the use of damp litmus paper.

The mark for the result of the test was dependent upon a mark being awarded for a correct test.

01.3 Only around a quarter of students were awarded this mark. The use of words such as solution or liquid were common uncreditworthy responses. The removal of **all** the water was also not indicated by many students.

01.4 This multiple-choice question was very well answered, with around 85% of students gaining credit.

01.5 This calculation was generally answered well by most students. Around two-thirds gained all four marks by completing the calculation using one of the approaches given on the mark scheme and usually showing full details of their working. Those who did not complete the calculation usually gained two marks for correctly determining the mean concentration of sodium chloride.

Answer 15 · Examiner comments June 2025 | 8462/2H | Original Q1

Question 1

01.1 Two thirds of students gained this marking point. Common incorrect responses included accurate (no comparative), more precise, easier to use and less likely to spill.

01.2 This mark was gained by three quarters of students. the most common errors were the volume of sea water and not mentioning mass.

01.3 The idea of heating to constant mass was known by a quarter of students, who gained two marks. Nearly 3 in 5 students gained no marks, often suggesting heating for longer, looking at the basin to see if there was any water left, heating above 100°C or patting dry.

01.4 Three fifths of students expressed the correct method of calculating the mass of dissolved solids. Those that did not gain this mark often missed the use of a mass or just suggested using a weighing scale.

01.5 Over half of students scored all five marks on this calculation. Where all five marks were not achieved, the most common error was an incorrect or no conversion from cm^3 to dm^3.

01.6 Half of students were able to suggest that the samples had come from different areas of the sea. Those that did not gain the mark tended to just reword the question.