AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.4.2.4

The pH scale and neutralisation

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**27**
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.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

November 2007 | CHY1B | Original Q8 | Legacy

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

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

January 2008 | CHY2H | Original Q5 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 73. Follow original question 5 in that document.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

(a)(ii)	5.6 **or** from their graph		1
(a)(iii)	10 – 5.6 = 4.4	their reading at 15ºC – their (a)(ii) answer from their figures	1 1
(a)(iv)	Yes: the value at 15°C because have values either side owtte **or** No: more error in a smaller number owtte	accept converse answers based on 50°C accept converse answers based on 50°C	1
(b)(i)	balanced view / involving people / debate / gather information / democracy	owtte any sensible answer ignore 'trout might die'	1
(b)(ii)	undue weight / bias may be given to high status and very experienced people **or** less experienced/lower status may reduce status of enquiry	owtte any sensible answer	1

continued…

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

CHY3H

Question 2 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(b)(iii)	(A) Management: any **one** from: • small amounts may be fine • can cope for short periods • could spread throughout the day • fish still getting (enough) oxygen • rate of photosynthesis could be increased to balance loss of oxygen • water will cool down (quickly) (B) Council: any **one** from: • any rise in temperature would reduce / affect (dissolved) oxygen • water will still be too hot • trout will die above 26°C	any sensible answer any sensible answer	1 1
total			9

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

CHY3H

Question 3

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	scale – (solid) formed when heat decomposes dissolved calcium / magnesium compounds owtte	allow: scale is formed when hard water is heated / boiled (to leave magnesium / calcium compounds)	1
	scale is calcium carbonate / $CaCO_3$ or magnesium carbonate / $MgCO_3$	ignore evaporate	
	scum – (ppt) formed when soap reacts with calcium / magnesium (ions) owtte	allow scum is formed when hard water reacts with soap	1
	scum is calcium stearate / magnesium stearate		
(b)	calcium (ions) / Ca^{2+} / magnesium (ions) / Mg^{2+}		1
	replaced by hydrogen ions / H^+ / sodium ions / Na^+		1
total			4

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

CHY3H

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	undiscovered elements owtte		1
(a)(ii)	they would be in the wrong group / have the wrong / different properties / don't fit the pattern owtte	allow atomic weights may have been wrong	1
(b)(i)	any **three** from: • elements arranged in proton / atomic number order • group: elements in the same group / column have same number of outer electrons owtte • group: number of shells increase down group • period: elements in the same period / row have the same number of shells / energy levels • period: number of protons / electrons increase across period • atomic number: link of atomic number to number of protons • atomic number gives number of electrons	ignore mass number / atomic weight / neutrons throughout	3
(b)(ii)	it would mean splitting a proton / electron **or** implication of splitting proton / electron		1

continued…

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

CHY3H

Question 4 continued…

(c)		must be a comparison	
	(outer) electron closer (to nucleus)	accept fewer (electron) shells / energy levels	1
		fluorine is the smaller/est	
	stronger/est attraction (to nucleus) owtte	do **not** allow magnetic / intermolecular forces	1
	or		
	less screening (by inner electrons)		
	electron gained more easily		1
		need some indication of outer electron shell somewhere in explanation otherwise max of **2** marks	
total			9

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

CHY3H

Question 5

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)		**must** be description of a titration no titration = no marks	
	NaOH in <u>burette</u>	do **not** accept biuret etc	1
	add NaOH until (indicator) changes colour	if specific colour change mentioned, must be correct – colourless to pink / red **or** 'goes pink / red' do **not** accept 'clear' for colourless	1
	note (burette) volume used **or** final reading	accept 'work out the volume'	1
	one other point: eg repeat	accept: (white) tile **or** add dropwise / slowly **or** white background **or** swirling / mix **or** read meniscus at eye level **or** wash apparatus	1
(b)	0.054	for **2** marks (0.1 × 13.5)/25 for **1** mark	2
(c)	don't know – insufficient evidence to decide **or** depends on whether acid level is considered safe or unsafe	owtte any sensible answer	1
	yes, safe – acid level low / weak acids / low compared with stomach acid	owtte any sensible answer	
	no, unsafe – acid level (too) high / other substances or bacteria may be present / insufficient evidence to decide	owtte any sensible answer	

continued…

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

CHY3H

Question 5 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(d)	(methyl orange) would have changed colour (well) before the end-point / pH7 / neutral	owtte	1
	weak acid present	weak acid-strong base (titration) allow methyl orange used for strong acid-weak base titration	1
total			9

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 03 · Mark scheme January 2008 | CHY3H | Original Q5 | Legacy

CHY3H

Answer 04 · Mark scheme June 2008 | CHY2H | Original Q5 | Legacy

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(a)	Pb Cl C O		
	$\frac{76}{207}$ $\frac{13}{35.5}$ $\frac{2.2}{12}$ $\frac{8.8}{16}$	**1** mark for dividing **one** mass by A_r allow upside down ratio to lose this mark only	1
	= 0.367 = 0.366 = 0.183 = 0.55	**1** mark for **one** correct proportion – accept to one d.p. or rounded up to 1 d.p.	1
		1 mark for **all four** correct proportions correctly rounded	1
	2 2 1 3 **or $Pb_2Cl_2CO_3$**	**1** mark for correctly written formula **or** correct whole number ratio correct formula without working gets only **1** mark. e.c.f. can be allowed from incorrect proportions to formula **or** ratio	1
5(b)(i)	any **one** from: • $NaOH^-$ / sodium hydroxide is formed / an alkali • hydroxide / OH^- ions formed	**not** just alkali is formed increase number of hydroxide / OH^- ions	1
5(b)(ii)	filter	accept centrifuge / decant allow filter and evaporate ignore further steps unless contradictory	1
Total			**6**

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

June 2008 | CHY2H | Original Q5 | Legacy

COMPONENT NUMBER: CHY2H

COMPONENT NAME: Additional Science / Chemistry

STATUS: Final

DATE: June 2008

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH2HP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)	Marks awarded for this answer will be determined by the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) as well as the standard of the scientific response. Examiners should also refer to the information on page 2, and apply a 'best-fit' approach to the marking.		6

0 marks	Level 1 (1-2 marks)	Level 2 (3-4 marks)	Level 3 (5-6 marks)
No relevant content.	There is a simple description of a laboratory procedure for obtaining potassium chloride.	There is a clear description of a laboratory procedure for obtaining potassium chloride from potassium hydroxide solution and hydrochloric acid that does not necessarily allow the procedure to be completed successfully by another person. The answer must include the use of an indicator / pH meter **or** a method of obtaining crystals.	There is a detailed description of a laboratory procedure for obtaining potassium chloride from potassium hydroxide solution and hydrochloric acid that can be followed by another person. The answer must include the use an indicator / pH meter **and** a method of obtaining crystals

examples of the chemistry points made in the response:

- One reagent in beaker (or similar)
- Add (any named) indicator
- Add other reagent
- Swirl **or** mix
- Add dropwise near end point
- Stop addition at change of indicator colour
- Note volume of reagent added
- Repeat without indicator, adding same volume of reagent **or** remove indicator using charcoal
- Pour solution into basin / dish
- Heat (using Bunsen burner)
- Leave to crystallise / leave for water to evaporate / boil off water

Accept any answers based on titration

Question 2 continues on the next page . .

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

CH2HP

Question 2 cont'd…

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(b)	nitric (acid)	allow HNO_3 ignore incorrect formula	1
2(c)(i)	because it is a fertiliser / helps plants grow	allow plant food do **not** accept pesticide / herbicide / neutralising soil	1
2(c)(ii)	tick by: 'Should farmers stop using ammonium nitrate on their land?' any **two** from: • cannot be done by experiment • based on opinion / view • ethical **or** economic issue	 accept difficult to get / not enough evidence allow must be done by survey if top box ticked allow **1** mark for drinking water varies from place to place	1 2
Total			**11**

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | CH2HP | Original Q2 | Legacy

CH2HP

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

January 2013 | CH2HP | Original Q2 | Legacy

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)(i)	because they are positively charged	accept they are positive / H^+ accept oppositely charged **or** opposites attract ignore they are attracted	1
2(a)(ii)	gains one / an electron	accept $H^+ + e^- \rightarrow H$ or multiples allow gains electrons	1
2(b)	3 bonding pairs 1 lone pair	 accept 2 non-bonding electrons on outer shell of nitrogen	1 1
2(c)(i)	hydroxide / OH^-	do **not** accept sodium hydroxide	1
2(c)(ii)	$H^+ + OH^- \rightarrow H_2O$	ignore state symbols ignore word equation	1

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

January 2013

CH2HP

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(d)	Marks awarded for this answer will be determined by the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) as well as the standard of the scientific response. Examiners should also refer to the information on page 5.		6

0 marks	Level 1 (1-2 marks)	Level 2 (3-4 marks)	Level 3 (5-6 marks)
No relevant content.	There are basic descriptions of advantages or disadvantages of the electrolysis cells.	There are clear descriptions of environmental or economic advantages or disadvantages of the electrolysis cells. Comparisons may be implied.	There are detailed descriptions of environmental and economic advantages and disadvantages, comparing the electrolysis cells.

examples of chemistry points made in the response:

Accept converse where appropriate.

- mercury cell is more expensive to construct
- mercury is recycled but membranes must be replaced
- mercury is toxic but membrane / polymer is not
- removing traces of mercury from waste is expensive
- mercury cell uses more electricity
- mercury cell produces chlorine that is purer
- mercury cell produces higher concentration / better quality of sodium hydroxide (solution)

Total			12

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

January 2013

CH2HP

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | CH2HP | Original Q6 | Legacy

Question 6

question	Answers	extra information	Mark
6(a)	has simple / small molecules	accept molecular covalent	1
	the intermolecular forces / intermolecular bonds (are weak)	do **not** accept weak covalent bonds **or** reference to incorrect bonding	1
	only need a small amount of energy to be overcome	accept only need a small amount of energy to separate the molecules if no other mark awarded, allow it has a low boiling point for **1** mark	1
6(b)(i)	to separate		1
6(b)(ii)	(relative) molecular mass	allow M_r / (R)MM / relative mass / mass of molecule / (R)FM	1
6(c)(i)	any pH value from 0 to 6.9		1
6(c)(ii)	hydrogen	allow H^+ ignore H / H_2 / H^-	1
6(d)	any **three** from:		3
	• same number of protons	accept same atomic number numbers if given must be correct	
	• ^2H has one neutron • ^1H has no neutrons	accept different mass number **or** different number of neutrons for **1** mark ignore relative atomic mass	
	• same number of electrons	numbers if given must be correct	
Total			**10**

UMS Conversion Calculator: www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 08 · Mark scheme June 2014 | CH2HP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
1(a)(i)	(phosphoric) acid	*allow phosphoric*	1	2 / 2.6.2d	G
1(a)(ii)	H^+ / hydrogen (ion)	*if ion symbol given, charge must be correct*	1	2 / 2.6.2d	E
1(b)(i)	pencil so it will not run / smudge / *dissolve* **or** because ink would run / smudge / *dissolve*	 *ignore pencil will not interfere with / affect the results* *ignore ink will interfere with / affect the results*	1 1	2 / 2.3.2b	E
1(b)(ii)	any **three** from: • *3* colours in Cola • *2* colours in Fruit drink • one of the colours is the same • two of the colours in Cola are different • one of the colours in Fruit drink is different • *one of the colours in Cola is the most soluble*	*reference to spots / dots = max **2*** *allow colouring for colour* *allow more colours in cola **or** fewer colours in fruit drink* *allow some of the colours in the drinks are different* *accept one of the colours in Cola has the highest R_f value*	3	3 / 2.3.2b	E
1(c)	different substances travel at different speeds **or** have different retention times	*accept different attraction to solid* *ignore properties of compounds*	1	1 / 2.3.2c	E

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
1(d)(i)	Is there caffeine in a certain brand of drink?		1	3 / 2.3.2	A
1(d)(ii)	any **two** from: • cannot be done by experiment • based on opinion / *lifestyle choice* • ethical, *social* or economic issue	*accept caffeine has different effects on different people*	2	3 / 2.3.2	E
Total			**11**		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 08 · Mark scheme June 2014 | CH2HP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
2 Marks awarded for this answer will be determined by the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) as well as the standard of the scientific response. Examiners should also refer to the information on page 5, and apply a 'best-fit' approach to the marking.				1 + 2 / 2.1.1f/g 2.2.1a 2.2.2a	E

0 marks	Level 1 (1–2 marks)	Level 2 (3–4 marks)	Level 3 (5–6 marks)
No relevant content	*There is a statement about the bonding and/or structure **or** melting / boiling point of chlorine **or** sodium chloride.*	*There are statements about the bonding and/or structure of chlorine **or** sodium chloride.*	*There are statements about the bonding and/or structure of chlorine **and** sodium chloride.* *There is an explanation of why chlorine is a gas **or** sodium chloride is a solid.*

Examples of chemistry points made in response:

Chlorine:

covalent bonds between atoms

forming simple molecules

no / weak attraction / bonds between molecules

low boiling point

Sodium chloride:

*ionic bonds **or** electrostatic attraction*

strong bonds

in all directions

between oppositely charged ions

forming giant lattice

large amounts of energy needed to break bonds

high melting point

Total			6

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH2HP | Original Q1 | Legacy



4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 09 · Mark scheme June 2014 | CH3HP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
4(a)(i)	calcium (carbonate) **or** magnesium (carbonate)	allow $CaCO_3$ allow $MgCO_3$	1	1 / 3.2.1b	E
4(a)(ii)	carbon dioxide	allow CO_2	1	1 / 3.4.1d	G
4(b)	– COOH group correctly displayed		1	1 / 3.6	E
4(c)(i)	 because hydrochloric acid is a strong(er) acid which ionises more	allow converse *throughout* 'it' refers to hydrochloric acid *allow because hydrochloric acid has lower pH* accept produces / has more hydrogen ions / H^+ ions	 1 1	1 + 3 / 3.6.2b	E
4(c)(ii)	corrosive	allow reacts with *heating* element / kettle *ignore dissolves*	1	3 / 3.6.2b	E
4(d)	0.2288	correct answer gains **3** marks with or without working accept 0.229 ***or*** *0.23* if answer is incorrect 28.6 x 0.2 ÷ 1000 (=0.00572) gains **1** mark 0.00572 x 1000 ÷ 25 or ecf gains **1** mark ***or*** 28.6 x 0.2 ÷ 25 gains **2** marks	3	2 / 3.4.1h	E
Total			**9**		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH3HP | Original Q4 | Legacy



4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH1HP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
2(a)(i)	(calcium) carbonate	ignore $CaCO_3$	1	1 / 1.2.1a
2(a)(ii)	(thermal) decomposition		1	1 / 1.2.1b
2(a)(iii)	water	allow H_2O allow hydrogen oxide	1	1 / 1.2.1d
2(a)(iv)	alkali	allow base	1	1 / 1.2.1d
2(b)(i)	straight line through the first, second and fourth points straight line through the last four points	 allow a straight line through the last three points if the first straight line extrapolates below point four	1 1	2+3 / 1.2.1g
2(b)(ii)	repeat the experiment (at each mass of aggregate) (use the results to) calculate a mean/average value (for each mass of aggregate)	do not allow repeat at other masses	1 1	3 / 1.2.1g

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
2(b)(iii)	line drawn to y axis showing extrapolation		1	2+3 / 1.2.1g
	correct value read from graph	allow +/- one small square do not allow 0 award 1 mark for a value of 34-40 if no extrapolation shown	1	
2(b)(iv)	at first, the force needed to break a concrete beam increases	allow values allow at first the statement is correct	1	3 / 1.2.1g
	but the force needed to break a concrete beam then decreases	allow values	1	
	mention of 400 g as the point at which the force needed changes or value from graph	allow 400g if there is no intercept on graph	1	
Total			**13**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH1HP | Original Q2 | Legacy



4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

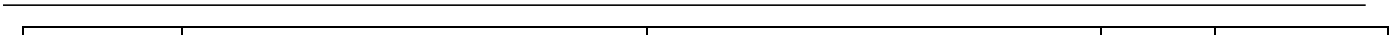
Answer 11 · Mark scheme June 2015 | CH3HP | Original Q5 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
5(a)	any **two** from: • fuel • solvent • antiseptic	 allow source of energy allow perfume / aftershave allow antibacterial	2	**AO1** 3.6.1.b
5(b)	Hydrogen		1	**AO1** 3.6.1.b
5(c)(i)	oxidation	do **not** allow redox	1	**AO1** 3.6.1.c
5(c)(ii)	correct structure		1	**AO1** 3.6.2.a
5(c)(iii)	 ethanoic acid is a weak / weaker acid because it does not completely ionise.	it = ethanoic acid allow because it does not completely dissociate allow it has a lower concentration of hydrogen ions allow converse for hydrochloric acid do **not** allow ionising	 1 1	**AO1/ AO2** 3.6.2.b
5(d)(i)	ethyl ethanoate		1	**AO1** 3.6.2.b
5(d)(ii)	acid	allow any strong acid allow correct formulae	1	**AO1** 3.6.2.b
5(d)(iii)	evaporates easily / quickly	allow low boiling point do **not** allow flammable	1	**AO1** 3.6.3.a
Total			**10**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 11 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH3HP | Original Q5 | Legacy



4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 12 · Mark scheme June 2015 | CH3HP | Original Q8 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
8(a)(i)	any **one** from • incorrect measurement of temperature or volume • incorrect recording of temperature • failure to stir • heat loss	ignore faulty equipment	1	**AO3** 3.1.3.c
8(a)(ii)	32 - 33		1	**AO2** 3.1.3.c
8(a)(iii)	55		1	**AO2** 3.1.3.c
8(a)(iv)	20		1	**AO2** 3.1.3.c
8(a)(v)	4620 J / joules	allow 4.62 kJ for **2 marks** allow kJ if evidence of dividing by 1000 mark independently, but if a numerical answer has been divided by 1000 must be kJ. allow ecf from their answers to 8(a)(iii) and 8(a)(iv)	1 1	**AO2** 3.3.1.b/c
8(b)	twice as much energy released but twice as much water to heat	allow more energy released but more water to heat for **2 marks** if no other mark awarded, allow twice the amount of hydrochloric acid used for **1 mark**	1 1	**AO3** 3.3.1.c
Total			**8**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 13 · Mark scheme June 2016 | CH2HP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / SpecRef
2(a)	endothermic		1	AO1 2.5.1d
2(b)	82 (%)	correct answer with working gains **3** marks if 17 or 34 not shown in working **max 2** marks accept 82.4 accept 82.35 to full calculator display (82.35294...) correctly rounded to at least 2 sf if no answer or incorrect answer, then (M_r =) 17 gains **1** mark **or** 14/17 gains **2** marks **OR** ($2M_r$ =) 34 gains **1** mark **or** 28/34 gains **2** marks **OR** 14/their M_r shown gains **1** mark **or** correct calculation of 14/their M_r gains **2** marks	3	AO2 2.3.3a, 2.3.1f
2(c)(i)	7 / seven		1	AO1 2.6.2d
2(c)(ii)	$H^+ + OH^- \rightarrow H_2O$		1	AO1 2.6.2e
2(c)(iii)	ammonium chloride	allow NH_4Cl ignore an incorrect formula	1	AO1 2.6.2b

Question 2 continues on the next page

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | CH2HP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / SpecRef
2(d)			6	2AO2 / 4AO3 2.6.2c

Marks awarded for this answer will be determined by the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) as well as the standard of the scientific response. Examiners should also refer to the information on page 5 and apply a 'best-fit' approach to the marking.

0 marks	Level 1 (1–2 marks)	Level 2 (3–4 marks)	Level 3 (5–6 marks)
No relevant content.	Suggestion with a reference to a graph.	Suggestion with reasons referring to more than one graph.	Suggestion with reasons from all three graphs, and linking of ideas which may explain a compromise.

Examples of chemistry points made in response:

A reasonable suggested amount of fertiliser would be in the region of 200 kg (per ha). Accept any suggestion from about 180 kg (per ha) to 500 kg (per ha).

Yield:

- Using fertiliser improves yield.
- Yield improved most up to about 200 kg (per ha) of fertiliser.
- Yield only increased slightly above about 200 kg (per ha).

Profit:

- About 200 kg of fertiliser gives the most profit.
- Above about 200 kg (per ha) of fertiliser profit declines.

Run off:

- Run off is at low levels until about 300 kg (per ha) of fertiliser.
- Above about 300 kg (per ha) of fertiliser, run off increases.

Examples of linking of ideas:

- Overall 200 kg gives high crop yield and most profit.
- In conclusion 200 kg gives high crop yield and low run off.
- 200 kg gives most profit and low run off.

Examples of compromise:

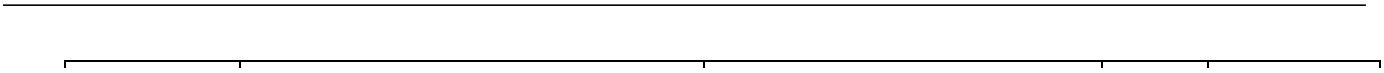
- Profits go down after about 200 kg (per ha) of fertiliser because cost of fertiliser is not covered by increased yield.
- 200 kg gives the highest profit although it is not the highest yield.
- 500 kg gives the best yield but has the most runoff.

Total			13

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | CH2HP | Original Q2 | Legacy



Answer 14 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | CH2HP | Original Q6 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 88. Follow original question 6 in that document.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

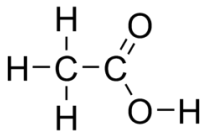
Answer 15 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | CH3HP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
3(a)(i)	any **one** from: • for undiscovered elements • so elements with similar properties were in same column / group	ignore so they fit the pattern	1	**AO1** 3.1.1b
3(a)(ii)	any **one** from: • they have different properties from elements above them • they are (transition) metals .	ignore electronic configuration ignore they did not fit the pattern allow transition elements	1	**AO1** 3.1.1a,b
3(b)(i)	7 electrons in outer shell / highest energy level	ignore gain of 1 electron	1	**AO2** 3.1.2b
3(b)(ii)	for bromine: outer shell closer to nucleus stronger force of attraction (to nucleus) electron more easily gained to outer shell	‘outer’ must be mentioned once for 3 marks. comparatives required. ignore references to bromide / iodide allow converse for iodine allow fewer shells allow smaller atom allow less shielding	1 1 1	**AO1** **AO2** 3.1.3g,h

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

3(c)(i)	yellow precipitate	allow yellow or dark yellow or light yellow or pale yellow allow dark yellow or light yellow or pale yellow precipitate allow dark yellow or light yellow or pale yellow ppt allow dark yellow or light yellow or pale yellow solid do **not** allow yellow solution	1	**AO1** 3.4.1e
3(c)(ii)	green precipitate	allow green or dark green or light green or pale green or dirty green allow dark green or light green or pale green or dirty green precipitate allow dark green or light green or pale green or dirty green ppt allow dark green or light green or pale green or dirty green solid do **not** allow green solution	1	**AO1** 3.4.1b
3(d)	one colour obscures the other	allow colours mix / blend allow only one colour seen	1	**AO3** 3.4.1a
3(e)(i)		allow -OH in the structure without the -O-H bond shown	1	**AO1** 3.6.2a

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

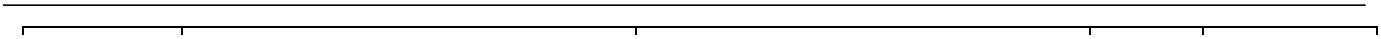
Answer 15 · Mark scheme

3(e)(ii)	weak acid (because) ethanoic acid is not fully ionised / dissociated	allow converse for hydrochloric acid allow (the solution) has a lower concentration of hydrogen ions allow (produces) fewer hydrogen ions. do **not** allow ionising	1 1	**AO3** 3.6.2a,b
Total			**12**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | CH3HP | Original Q3 | Legacy



4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 16 · Mark scheme June 2017 | CH3HP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
4(a)(i)	2 (K +) 2 (H_2O →) 2 (KOH) + H_2	allow multiples allow H_2 for 1 mark allow 2 (K +) 2 (H_2O →) 2 (KOH) + 2H for 1 mark	2	**AO1** **AO2** 3.1.3a
4(a)(ii)	any **two** from: • potassium reacts more quickly / vigorously • potassium moves around more quickly • more bubbles from potassium • potassium melts • potassium produces a (lilac) flame	accept converse for Li allow dissolves more quickly allow more gas / hydrogen from potassium allow potassium catches fire	2	**AO1** **AO3** 3.1.3a
4(b)	add alkali to acid from burette until indicator changes colour take reading of volume at start and end repeat (and find mean) any **one** from • swirl / stir • add dropwise / slowly • white tile • rinse apparatus • meniscus • read at eye level	allow alternative apparatus for measuring volume allow appropriate use of pH probe allow record the volume used	1 1 1 1 1	**AO1** **AO3** 3.4.1g

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

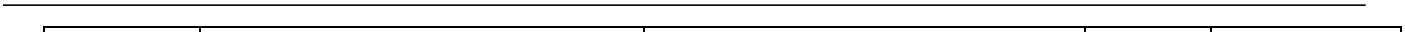
Answer 16 · Mark scheme

4(c)	0.21	if incorrect, 26.25 x 0.2/1000 or 0.00525 for 1 mark their moles x 1000/25.00 or their moles x 40 for 1 mark correct evaluation for 1 mark 0.19(0476…) gains only 1 mark with or without working	3	**AO2** 3.4.1h
Total			**12**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | CH3HP | Original Q4 | Legacy



4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	(strong because) completely ionised (in aqueous solution)	ignore pH allow dissociated for ionised do **not** accept hydrogen is ionising do **not** accept H^+ are ionised	1	AO1 4.3.4 4.4.2.6
	(dilute because) small amount of acid per unit volume	ignore low concentration	1	AO1 4.3.4 4.4.2.6
09.2	5.0	allow 5	1	AO2 4.4.2.6

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	(titre): chooses titrations 3, 4, 5	an incorrect answer for one step does **not** prevent allocation of marks for subsequent steps	1	AO2 4.3.4 4.4.2.5
	average titre = 22.13 (cm^3)	allow average titre = 22.13(3…) (cm^3) allow a correctly calculated average from an incorrect choice of titrations	1	
	(calculation): (moles NaOH = $\frac{22.13}{1000} \times 0.105 = 0.002324$)	allow use of incorrect average titre from step 2	1	
	(moles H_2SO_4 = ½ × 0.002324 =) 0.001162	allow use of incorrect number of moles from step 3	1	
	(concentration = $\frac{0.001162}{25} \times 1000$) = 0.0465 ($mol/dm^3$)	allow use of incorrect moles from step 4	1	
		alternative approach for step 3, step 4 and step 5 $\frac{2}{1} = \frac{22.13 \times 0.105}{25.0 \times \text{conc. } H_2SO_4}$ (1) (concentration H_2SO_4 =) $\frac{22.13 \times 0.105}{25.0 \times 2}$ = 0.0465 (mol/dm^3) (1) an answer of 0.046473 **or** 0.04648 correctly rounded to at least 2 sig figs scores marking points 3, 4 and 5 an answer of 0.092946 **or** 0.09296 **or** 0.185892 **or** 0.18592 correctly rounded to at least 2 sig figs scores marking points 3 and 5		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	pipette measures a fixed volume (accurately) (but) burette measures variable volume	 allow can measure drop by drop	1 1	AO1 4.4.2.5
09.5	 (moles =) $\frac{30}{1000} \times 0.105$ **or** 0.00315 (mol) **or** (mass per dm^3 =) 0.105×40 **or** 4.2 (g) (mass = $\frac{30}{1000} \times 0.105 \times 40$) = 0.126 (g)	an answer of 0.126 (g) scores **2** marks an answer of 126(g) scores **1** mark an incorrect answer for one step does **not** prevent allocation of marks for subsequent steps	 1 1	AO2 4.3.2.5 4.3.4 4.4.2.5
Total			**12**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 18 · Mark scheme June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	H^+		1	AO1 4.4.2.4
02.2	hydrochloric (acid) water	allow HCl allow H_2O	1 1	AO2 4.4.2.2
02.3	burette	do **not** accept biuret	1	AO1 4.4.2.5
02.4	27.6 (cm^3)	allow 27.60 (cm^3)	1	AO2 4.4.2.5

Question 2 continued

Question	Answers	Mark	AO/ Spec. Ref
02.5	**Level 3**: The design/plan would lead to the production of a valid outcome. All key steps are identified and logically sequenced.	5–6	AO3 AO1
	Level 2: The design/plan would not necessarily lead to a valid outcome. Most steps are identified, but the plan is not fully logically sequenced.	3–4	AO1 x 2
	Level 1: The design/plan would not lead to a valid outcome. Some relevant steps are identified, but links are not made clear.	1–2	AO1 x 2
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content allow converse using acid added to alkali Key steps • measure the volume of acid • add indicator to the acid • add sodium hydroxide solution • until the colour changes • record volume of sodium hydroxide solution added • repeat procedure with the other acid Use of results • compare the two volumes of sodium hydroxide solution to find which sample **P** or **Q** is more concentrated Other points • pipette to measure volume of acid • use a few drops of indicator • swirl • use a white tile • rough titration to find approximate end point • add dropwise near the endpoint • read volume from bottom of meniscus • repeat and take a mean		4.4.2.5
Total		**11**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 19 · 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	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 19 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 20 · Mark scheme

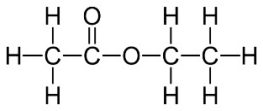
November 2020 | 8462/2H | Original Q7

Question 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	HCOOH propanoic acid	allow HCO_2H	1 1	AO1 4.7.2.4
07.2	incomplete / partial ionisation (because) reaction is reversible	allow incomplete / partial dissociation allow (because) reaction is in equilibrium	1 1	AO3 4.7.2.4
07.3	mass (of flask and contents) decreases (because) carbon dioxide is produced (and) carbon dioxide escapes (from the flask)	allow **1** mark for the gas produced escapes (from the flask)	1 1 1	AO1 AO2 AO2 4.3.1.3 4.7.2.4
07.4	 ($0.01\ mol/dm^3$) methanoic acid has a lower pH (so $0.01\ mol/dm^3$) methanoic acid has a higher concentration of hydrogen ions (therefore) more collisions per unit time	allow converse argument for ethanoic acid allow ($0.01\ mol/dm^3$) methanoic acid is a stronger acid	 1 1 1	AO2 AO2 AO3 4.6.1.2 4.6.1.3 4.7.2.4
07.5	ethyl ethanoate		1	AO1 4.7.2.4

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Question 7 (continued)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.6			1	AO2 4.7.2.4 4.7.3.2
Total			12	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 21 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	potassium chloride	allow KCl	1	AO1 4.4.2.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.2	$H^+ + OH^- \rightarrow H_2O$	ignore state symbols	1	AO1 4.1.1.1 4.4.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.3	copper carbonate and copper oxide only		1	AO1 4.4.1.2 4.4.2.2 4.4.2.3 RPA1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.4	(Step 2) to speed up the reaction (Step 5) to make sure all the (hydrochloric) acid reacts (Step 6) to remove the excess magnesium oxide	 ignore to remove impurities	1 1 1	AO1 4.4.2.3 RPA1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.5	using a (boiling) water bath **or** using an electric heater		1	AO1 4.4.2.3 RPA1

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Question 5 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.6	(moles Fe = $\frac{14}{56}$ =) 0.25 (mol)		1	AO2 4.3.2.1 4.3.2.2 4.3.5
	(moles Cl_2 = $\frac{3}{2}$ × 0.25 =) 0.375 (mol)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated number of moles of Fe	1	
	(volume Cl_2 = 24 × 0.375) = 9.0 (dm^3)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated number of moles of Cl_2	1	

Total			**10**

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 22 · 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 = $4.32 \times \frac{250}{1000}$) = 1.08 (g)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated value of concentration in g/dm^3	1	
	alternative approach: (moles = $0.0480 \times \frac{250}{1000}$ =) 0.012 (mol) (1)			
	(mass = 0.012 × 90) = 1.08 (g) (1)	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated value of number of moles		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 23 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Mark	AO/ Spec. Ref
08.1	**Level 3:** Relevant points (reasons / causes) are identified, given in detail and logically linked to form a clear account.	3-4	AO1 4.3.2.5 4.4.2.4 4.4.2.6
	Level 2: Relevant points (reasons / causes) are identified, and there are attempts at logical linking. The resulting account is not fully clear.	1-2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content <u>General principle</u> • pH depends on H^+ ion concentration • the higher the concentration of H^+ ions the lower the pH <u>Strength</u> • the stronger an acid the greater the ionisation / dissociation (in aqueous solution) • (so) the stronger the acid the lower the pH <u>Concentration</u> • the higher the concentration of an acid the more acid / solute in the same volume (of solution) • (so) the higher the concentration of the acid the lower the pH		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 23 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	the mean of titration numbers 2 to 5 values is calculated	allow identification of titration by titration number or volume	1	AO3 4.4.2.5 RPA2
	(because) 23.90 (cm^3) is an anomalous result	allow (because) 23.90 (cm^3) is not concordant allow (because) 23.90 (cm^3) is too high a value allow (because) the first titration is a rough value	1	
		allow for **2** marks an answer of (because) the mean is taken of the values within 0.10 (cm^3)		
		allow for **2** marks an answer of (because) the mean is taken of the concordant values		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 23 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3	(moles $Ba(OH)_2$ = $\frac{23.50}{1000}$ × 0.100) = 0.00235		1	AO2 4.3.4 4.4.2.5 RPA2
	(moles HCl = 0.00235 × 2 =) 0.00470	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated number of moles of $Ba(OH)_2$	1	
	(concentration =) 0.00470 × $\frac{1000}{25.0}$	allow correct use of an incorrectly calculated number of moles of HCl	1	
	= 0.188 (mol/dm^3)		1	
	alternative approach:			
	$\left(\text{ratio } \frac{\text{moles HCl}}{\text{moles Ba(OH)}_2} = \right)$	allow inverted expression		
	$\frac{2}{1} = \frac{25.0 \times \text{concentration}}{23.50 \times 0.100}$ (**2**)	allow **1** mark for the expression with an incorrect mole ratio		
	(concentration =) $\frac{2 \times 23.50 \times 0.100}{25.00}$ (1)	allow correct use of the expression with an incorrect mole ratio		
	= 0.188 (mol/dm^3) (1)			

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 23 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	there are no ions that are free to move	allow there are no ions in solution allow there are no ions free to carry the charge	1	AO3 4.2.2.3 4.4.2.2 4.4.2.4 4.4.2.5
	(because) barium sulfate is solid / insoluble		1	
	(and) hydrogen ions have reacted with hydroxide ions to produce water	allow (and) water is a covalent / molecular substance	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5	the mixture (now) contains barium ions and hydroxide ions that are free to move	allow excess barium hydroxide solution contains ions	1	AO3 4.2.2.3 4.4.2.2 4.4.2.4 4.4.2.5

Total Question 8		14

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 24 · 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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 24 · 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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 24 · Mark scheme June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.5	(moles $Na_2CO_3 = \frac{25.0}{1000} \times 0.124$) = 0.0031(0)		1	AO2 4.3.4 4.4.2.5 RPA2
	(moles $HNO_3 = 2 \times 0.0031(0)$) = 0.0062(0)	allow correct use of an incorrectly determined number of moles of Na_2CO_3	1	
	(concentration =) $\frac{0.0062(0)}{23.6} \times 1000$	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		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 24 · 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**

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 25 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	(similarity) both have one outer (shell) electron	allow energy level for shell allow same number of outer (shell) electrons	1	AO1 4.1.2.1
	(difference) sodium has 3 shells but potassium has 4 shells	allow potassium has more shells allow (different) number of shells	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.2	any **two** from: • effervescence / bubbles / fizzing • (potassium) floats • (potassium) moves around • (potassium) becomes smaller • (potassium) melts • flame • explosion	ignore gas produced allow (potassium) forms a ball ignore colour of flame	2	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.4.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.3	blue / violet / purple		1	AO2
	(the solution is) alkaline	allow (the solution) contains OH^- (ions) allow (the solution) contains hydroxide ions allow the solution is basic	1	AO1 4.1.2.5 4.4.2.4

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 25 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.4	all five points correctly plotted	allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square allow **1** mark for three or four points correctly plotted	2	AO2 4.1.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.5	3.4 (mg/cm^3)	allow a value in the range 3.0 to 3.8 (mg/cm^3)	1	AO3 4.1.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.6	chlorine and potassium bromide		1	AO2 4.1.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.7	relative molecular mass increases and boiling point increases		1	AO1 4.1.2.6

Total Question 2	**11**

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 26 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	(an acid which) is partially ionised	allow (an acid which) is partially dissociated	1	AO1 4.4.2.4 4.4.2.6
	in aqueous solution	allow (when dissolved) in water MP2 is dependent on the award of MP1	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.2	pH increases		1	AO2 4.4.2.6
	(because) the concentration of hydrogen ions decreases		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	use a (volumetric) pipette to add the alkali	ignore beaker	1	AO1 4.4.2.5 RPA2
	any **two** from: • into a conical flask • add an indicator (to the alkali) • take the initial burette reading • use a white tile (under a conical flask)	allow named indicator do **not** accept add universal indicator	2	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 26 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	(volume of HCl = $\frac{0.0045}{0.15}$) = 0.030 (dm^3)		1	AO2 4.3.4 4.4.2.5 RPA2
	(conversion 0.030 dm^3 =) 30 (cm^3)	allow correct conversion of an incorrectly determined volume in dm^3	1	
	alternative approach $\left(\text{concentration} = \frac{0.15}{1000} =\right)$ 0.00015 (mol/cm^3) (1)			
	$\left(\text{volume} = \frac{0.0045}{0.00015} =\right)$ 30 (cm^3) (1)	allow correct use of an incorrectly determined concentration in mol/cm^3		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5		allow converse arguments in terms of magnesium allow energy level for shell		AO2 4.1.2.3 4.2.1.2 4.4.1.2
	(calcium's) outer shell / electrons are further from the nucleus	allow calcium has more shells ignore calcium atoms are larger	1	
	(so) the outer electrons are less strongly attracted to the nucleus	allow (so) the outer electrons are more shielded from the nucleus	1	
	(so) positive ions are formed more easily	allow (so) electrons are more easily lost	1	

Total Question 9	12

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 27 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question 8

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 27 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	any **two** from: (improvement) use phenolphthalein (instead of universal indicator) (reason) so that the colour change is sharp **or** (improvement) use a pH probe (reason) so the pH probe shows a sharper endpoint (than universal indicator) **OR** (improvement) add the sodium hydroxide solution drop by drop (near the end point) (reason) the volume (of sodium hydroxide solution) used is more accurate **OR** (improvement) read burette at eye level (reason) the volume (of sodium hydroxide solution) used is more accurate **OR** (improvement) rinse burette with sodium hydroxide **and** pipette with acid (reason) remove contaminants	**1** mark for improvement, **1** mark for reason reason must be linked to the corresponding improvement allow methyl orange for phenolphthalein allow any named single change indicator for phenolphthalein allow universal indicator changes colour too gradually allow universal indicator has too many colour changes ignore specific colour changes allow add the alkali drop by drop (near the end point) allow so the end point is more accurate allow read (volume) at the bottom of the meniscus allow to reduce parallax error	4	AO3 4.4.2.5 RPA 2

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 27 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3	24.70 (cm^3)	allow 24.7 (cm^3)	1	AO2 4.4.2.5 RPA 2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	$\left(\text{moles acid} = \frac{25.0 \times 0.216}{1000} =\right)$ 0.00540		1	AO2 4.3.2.5 4.4.2.5 RPA 2
	(moles alkali = 0.00540 × 2 =) 0.0108	allow correct use of incorrectly determined number of moles of acid	1	
	(concentration =) $0.0108 \times \frac{1000}{11.25}$	allow correct use of incorrectly determined number of moles of alkali	1	
	= 0.960 (mol/dm^3)	allow = 0.96 (mol/dm^3)	1	
	alternative approach:			
	$\left(\frac{\text{moles acid}}{\text{moles alkali}} =\right)$			
	$\frac{2}{1} = \frac{11.25 \times \text{conc}}{25.0 \times 0.216}$ (2)	allow inverted expression allow **1** mark for the expression with an incorrect mole ratio		
	(concentration =) $\frac{2 \times 25.0 \times 0.216}{11.25}$ (1)	allow correct use of the expression with incorrect mole ratio		
	= 0.960 (mol/dm^3) (1)	allow = 0.96 (mol/dm^3)		

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5	the HCl is a more dilute and stronger acid than the HCN		1	AO2 4.4.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.6	(HCl has a) higher concentration of hydrogen ions	allow HCN has a lower concentration of hydrogen ions	1	AO2 4.3.2.5 4.4.2.6
	(because) concentration of hydrogen ions in HCl is 0.1 (mol/dm^3) **and** concentration of hydrogen ions in HCN is 0.0002 (mol/dm^3)		1	

Total Question 8	**13**

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

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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4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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 more often **or** more chance of collisions **or** bump into each other more • collide with more force / energy **or** more particles have the activation energy **or** more collisions result in reaction **or** more collisions are successful	 allow given / gain / get energy ignore move about more ignore vibrate more / faster ignore collide quicker / faster	3
total			8

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

CHY2H

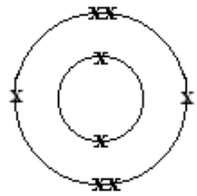
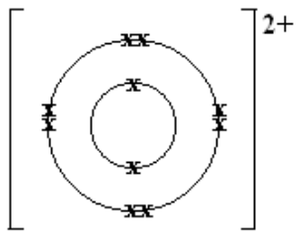
Question 4

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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…

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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 × (answer from (1)) = 71.4 mol 3) mass of NH_3 = (answer from 2) × 17 = 71.4 × 17 = 1214 g **or** • 28g of N_2 → 34g of NH_3 • 1g of N_2 → $\frac{34}{28}$ = 1.214g NH_3 • 1000 g of N_2 → 1000 × 1.214 = 1214g **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…

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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…

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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…

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

GCSE

Additional Science / Chemistry

CH2HP
Final Mark scheme

4408 / 4402
June 2017

Version/Stage: v1.0

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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 Assessment Objectives and specification content that each question is intended to cover.

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 and underlining

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 bullet points 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.

2.4 Any wording that is underlined is essential for the marking point to be awarded.

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which students 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]

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	green, 5	0
2	red*, 5	1
3	red*, 8	0

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Example 2: Name two planets in the solar system.

[2 marks]

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	Pluto, Mars, Moon	1
2	Pluto, Sun, Mars, Moon	0

3.2 Use of chemical symbols/formulae

If a student 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, 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 or by each stage of a longer calculation.

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 'ecf' 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 Accept/allow

Accept is used to indicate an equivalent answer to that given on the left-hand side of the mark scheme. Allow is used to denote lower-level responses that just gain credit.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

3.9 Ignore/Insufficient/Do not allow

Ignore or insufficient is used when the information given is irrelevant to the question or not enough to gain a marking point. Any further correct amplification could gain the marking point.
Do **not** allow means that this is a wrong answer which, even if the correct answer is given, will still mean that the mark is not awarded.

4 Quality of Written Communication and levels marking

In Question 2 students are required to produce extended written material in English, and will be assessed on the quality of their written communication as well as the standard of the scientific response.

Students will be required to:
- use good English
- organise information clearly
- use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

The following general criteria should be used to assign marks to a level:

Level 1: Basic

- Knowledge of basic information.
- Simple understanding.
- The answer is poorly organised, with almost no specialist terms and their use demonstrating a general lack of understanding of their meaning, little or no detail.
- The spelling, punctuation and grammar are very weak.

Level 2: Clear

- Knowledge of accurate information.
- Clear understanding.
- The answer has some structure and organisation, use of specialist terms has been attempted but not always accurately, some detail is given.
- There is reasonable accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar, although there may still be some errors.

Level 3: Detailed

- Knowledge of accurate information appropriately contextualised.
- Detailed understanding, supported by relevant evidence and examples.
- Answer is coherent and in an organised, logical sequence, containing a wide range of appropriate or relevant specialist terms used accurately.
- The answer shows almost faultless spelling, punctuation and grammar.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
1(a)(i)	a smooth curve through or close to all points except (30,12)		1	AO2 2.4
1(a)(ii)	correct reading from the curve in 1(a)(i) (cm^3)	allow a tolerance of +/- 0.5 cm^3	1	AO2 2.4
1(a)(iii)	45-50 (seconds)		1	AO3 2.4
1(a)(iv)	line becomes less steep because gas is produced more slowly	ignore line levels out or plateaus allow examples with figures, eg 12 cm^3 gas from 0 to 20s but 1.5 cm^3 gas in last 20s ignore reaction has stopped or no more gas produced	1 1	AO3 2.4
1(a)(v)	0.6 (cm^3 per second)	allow 0.55 to 0.65	1	AO2 2.4
1(b)(i)	 temperature volume (of hydrogen peroxide)	concentration of hydrogen peroxide = max **1** ignore amount (of hydrogen peroxide)	 1 1	AO3 2.4
1(b)(ii)	 rate increases because more particles (in the same volume) so frequency of collisions increases	incorrect reference to energy = max **2** accept particles closer together allow greater chance of collisions ignore more collisions	 1 1 1	AO1 2.4.1e

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

1(c)	(increasing the amount of catalyst) increases rate same final volume of gas	accept steeper graph or graph levels off earlier	1 1	**AO2** 2.4.1g
Total			**13**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

<table>
<tr><th>Question</th><th>Answers</th><th>Extra information</th><th>Mark</th><th>AO / Spec. Ref.</th></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td>6</td><td rowspan="6">AO1
2.1.1h
2.2.4b,c
2.2.5a,b</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Marks awarded for this answer will be determined by the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) as well as the standard of the scientific response. Examiners should also refer to the information on page 5 and apply a ‘best-fit’ approach to the marking.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4"><table>
<tr><th>0 marks</th><th>Level 1
(1–2 marks)</th><th>Level 2
(3–4 marks)</th><th>Level 3
(5–6 marks)</th></tr>
<tr><td>no relevant information given</td><td>a statement about the structure or a property of a metal
or
a statement about the structure or a property of a polymer</td><td>a statement about the structure or a property of a metal
and
a statement about the structure or a property of a polymer</td><td>a statement about the structure or a property of a metal
and
a statement about the structure or a property of a polymer
and
at least one statement linking structure and property</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Statements shown as HT only are credited on both FT and HT.
However, HT only means that these statements are not expected in a FT answer.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Examples of chemistry points made in response

Metal:

Properties
shiny
hardness
(tensile) strength
melting point/boiling point
density
malleable/flexible
ductile
conduct electricity or thermal energy</td></tr>
</table>

Structure • metals contain atoms /((positive) ions HT only) • (the atoms/(positive) ions/particles are) closely packed / in a regular pattern / in a giant structure/in layers / in a lattice • strong bonds/(electrostatic attractions HT only) • (metal has delocalised electrons HT only) **Polymer:** **Properties** • flexible • melting/boiling point • density • can be shaped/moulded • poor conductor of electricity or thermal energy **Structure** • polymer consists of chains • polymer chains may be tangled • polymer has no cross links. • (polymer has weak intermolecular forces HT only) **Level 3:** **Examples of linked statements:** • metal can be bent and shaped because the layers can slide • some metals are soft because layers can slide • some metals are hard because they have strong bonds and/ or (the atoms/(positive) ions/particles) are closely packed / in a regular pattern / in a giant structure/ in a lattice • metal has high melting/boiling point because they have strong bonds and/ or (the atoms/(positive) ions/particles) are closely packed / in a regular pattern / in a giant structure / in a lattice • metal is strong because of strong bonds • some metals are dense because the atoms are closely packed • (metal can conduct thermal energy and electricity because metal has delocalised electrons HT only) • thermosoftening polymer melts when heated because it has no cross-links (or has weak intermolecular forces HT only) • thermosoftening polymer is flexible because the chains can move over each other	

Total			**6**

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Question	Answers	Extra Information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref
3(a)(i)	2 bonding pairs 4 unbonded electrons on each atom	accept dots, crosses, e, - or any combination ignore any electrons on any inner shells if no other mark awarded allow **1** mark for 1 bonding pair and 6 unbonded electrons on each atom	1 1	**AO2** 2.1.1g
3(a)(ii)	covalent	allow convalent and covelant ignore single or double ignore shared, shared bond or sharing	1	**AO1** 2.1.1g
3(a)(iii)	weak intermolecular forces require little energy to overcome	reference to weak covalent or weak ionic bonds = **0** accept weak intermolecular bonds MP2 dependent on MP1 if no other mark awarded allow 1 mark for simple/small molecules	1 1	**AO1** **AO2** 2.2.1a,b

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

3(b)(i)	**2** Mg + O_2 → **2** MgO	accept multiples	1	**AO2** 2.2.2
3(b)(ii)		reference to incorrect particles **or** incorrect bonding **or** incorrect structure = max **2**		**AO1** **AO2** 2.1.1a,b,c,f
	magnesium loses (electrons) **and** oxygen gains (electrons)		1	
	two (electrons transferred)		1	
	noble gas structure **or** 8 electrons in outer shells **or** (electrostatic) attraction between ions **or** forms ionic bonds	accept full outer shell (of electrons)	1	
3(b)(iii)	particles 1-100 nm in size	accept contain a few hundred atoms/ions accept have a high surface area to volume ratio ignore reference to (very) small particles do **not** accept smaller than an atom/ion	1	**AO1** 2.2.6a

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

3(c)	has a high melting point	allow will not melt allow a lot of energy needed to melt ignore boiling point reference to incorrect particles or incorrect bonding or incorrect structure = max **1** from MP2 and MP3	1	**AO1** **AO2** 2.2.3a
	because all atoms linked to other atoms	allow giant structure/lattice ignore many bonds	1	
	by covalent bonds	allow strong bonds allow a lot of energy needed to break bonds accept giant covalent structure for MP2 and MP3	1	
Total			**13**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Question	Answers	Extra Information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref
4(a)	add copper oxide and (sulfuric) acid		1	**AO1** **AO2** 2.6.1b,c
	excess (copper oxide)		1	
	filter (to remove excess)	ignore impurities	1	
	heat /boil / evaporate / leave (to crystallise)	do **not** accept to dryness	1	
4(b)	(M_r CuO =) 79.5		1	**AO2** 2.3.3c
	24.95/249.5 **or** 0.1 **OR** 79.5/249.5 **or** 0.3186…	allow ecf for M_r CuO from step 1 allow correct rounding to min 2SF	1	
	(24.95/249.5 x 79.5=) 7.95	allow ecf for M_r CuO from step 1 allow ecf from step 2 of incorrect calculation/ rounding of correct ratio allow correct rounding to min 2SF correct answer with or without working gains 3 marks	1	
4(c)(i)	as wealth decreases, ethene production decreases (with the exception of country C or D)	accept converse	1	**AO2** **AO3** 2.6
	sulfuric acid production is not linked to wealth		1	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

4(c)(ii)	use of products of ethene has increased	allow use of polymers / plastics / ethanol / poly(ethene) has increased ignore use of ethene as a (bio)fuel ignore cost	1	**AO3** 2.2.5
Total			**10**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Question	Answers	Extra Information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref
5(a)(i)	draw line on paper put (dots of) inks on line place (bottom of) paper in solvent / water any **one** from: line drawn in pencil allow dots of ink to dry line above solvent lid		1 1 1 1	**AO1** 2.3.2b
5(a)(ii)	any **two** from: • A has 3 colours **and** B has 4 colours • 2 colours are the same • **A** has 1 colour not in **B and B** has 2 colours not in **A**	accept 3 colours are different if no other mark awarded allow **one** more colour in ink **B** than in ink **A** (or converse)	2	**AO3** 2.3.2b
5(b)(i)	substances carried by gas through column / tube / coil (packed with solid) (different substances move through the column) at different speeds	 accept (different) substances come out at different times or have different retention times	1 1 1	**AO1** 2.3.2c
5(b)(ii)	(relative) molecular mass	allow (relative) formula mass allow RFM, RMM, M_r	1	**AO1** 2.3.2c
Total			**10**	

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Question	Answers	Extra Information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref
6(a)(i)	tick (✓) by: the initial temperature reading was too low		1	AO3 2.5
6(a)(ii)	the reaction is exothermic	allow energy is given out	1	AO3 2.5.1b
6(b)(i)	(positive/hydrogen) ions gain electrons hydrogen is below sodium in the reactivity series so hydrogen / H_2 is produced	accept (positive/hydrogen) ions are reduced accept reference to high reactivity of sodium If no other mark awarded allow hydrogen (and sodium) ions **or** positive ions are attracted to negative electrode for **1** mark	1 1 1	AO1 AO2 2.7.1c,f,i
6(b)(ii)	**2** (Cl^-) → **Cl_2 + 2e^-**	must be completely correct allow multiples	1	AO1 2.7.1g
6(b)(iii)	solution is alkaline because sodium hydroxide / NaOH is produced **or** sodium hydroxide / NaOH is left over	accept hydroxide (ions) / OH^- is produced **or** hydroxide (ions) / OH^- is left over	1 1	AO1 AO2 2.7.1i; 2.6.2d
Total			**8**	

Answer 17 · Examiner comments

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

Question 9 (standard / high and high demand)

09.1 46% of students could explain the idea of a strong acid correctly, but few could articulate the idea of a dilute acid using correct scientific ideas. Most referred either to a low concentration (which merely expresses the opposite of the word dilute) or adding water, explaining the word diluted rather than dilute. To gain the mark, the idea of few particles per unit volume was required. Some students tried to explain the ideas in terms of pH, failing to realise that pH is itself affected by both the strength of an acid and by its concentration.

09.2 This question, on a new area of the specification, was answered well, with 68% of students giving the correct answer.

09.3 This question discriminated very well. The highest-attaining students gave excellent answers, with clearly set out working which was easy to follow. 20% of students achieved full marks, and 41% were able to achieve at least two marks, usually for calculating the correct average titre from concordant results.

Some working was very hard to follow, making it difficult to give partial marks. This was particularly the case when students wrote numbers around a pair of triangles rather than giving a step by step process. It is as important to communicate how the answer is obtained as it is to get an answer. It is also hard to follow working when partial answers are left as fractions bearing no relation to the actual data; a calculator display should always be converted to decimal form for intermediate steps as well as the final answer.

Some students had a correct answer but then took their final answer down to one significant figure. Having done a required practical, students should know that titration is a very accurate technique so that an answer to one significant figure would never be appropriate.

09.4 There was little understanding of the reasons for using different apparatus to measure the two volumes. Answers often did not mention volume at all but referred vaguely to ‘amount’ or ‘how much’. Both a pipette and a burette measure accurately and precisely – the difference is that a pipette can only measure one single volume, but a burette measures variable volumes.

09.5 32% of students achieved both marks. The most common errors were to forget to divide by 1000 when calculating the number of moles, or to calculate the mass per dm^3 but not then scale to 30 cm^3.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 17 · Examiner comments

June 2018 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

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.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 18 · Examiner comments — June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2 (standard demand)

02.1 Approximately 80% of students correctly identified H^+ as the ion produced by all acids in aqueous solution.

The most common incorrect response was OH^-

02.2 Almost 60% of students scored both marks for completing the word equation.

The name of the acid was more widely known than the name of the missing product.

A common incorrect response for the product was hydrogen.

Answer 18 · Examiner comments — June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

02.3 The name 'burette' was well known. Phonetic equivalents of this word also scored the mark but not 'biuret' (as this is a reagent used in biology).

Other common incorrect responses included:

- pipette
- syringe
- measuring cylinder.

02.4 Approximately 70% of students were able to take a correct reading from the burette scale.

The most common incorrect answer was 28.4 cm^3.

02.5 Students appeared to be well prepared for this extended response question which drew on their experience of a required practical activity.

Approximately 60% of students achieved a Level 3 mark by identifying and logically sequencing all the key steps for this titration.

The most common key steps to be omitted were:

- measuring the volume of the acid
- adding an indicator.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 19 · 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

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 19 · 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.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 19 · 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.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 20 · Examiner comments November 2020 | 8462/2H | Original Q7

Question 7 (standard, standard / high and high demand)

07.1 Propanoic acid was named correctly much more often than a correct formula was given for methanoic acid. CHCOOH was a commonly seen error here.

07.2 Many students scored at least one mark here. A common misconception was that incomplete / partial ionisation means that each CH_3COOH molecule produces only one H^+ ion, i.e. that the three hydrogen atoms in the CH_3COO^- ion would also form H^+ ions if ionisation were complete.

Answer 20 · Examiner comments November 2020 | 8462/2H | Original Q7

07.3 This part was quite well answered. Most students stated that the mass decreases. Not all of the students who identified carbon dioxide as a product of the reaction went on to explain that it is the escape of this gas that causes the mass to decrease.

07.4 This part was poorly answered by many students. Many recognised that the pH of methanoic acid was lower but far fewer made the link to hydrogen ion concentration. Only a small proportion of students referred to collisions between particles and, of those that did, a significant minority referred to 'more collisions', which was insufficient for the mark, or incorrectly justified the increased collision frequency in terms of the particles having more energy.

07.5 A minority of students were able to name ethyl ethanoate.

07.6 A majority of students were able to identify the displayed structural formula of ethyl ethanoate.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 21 · Examiner comments November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

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

05.2 This equation, which is given in the specification, was not well known.

05.4 Students found this question difficult. Most students do not know why the acid is heated, and many incorrectly referred to helping the magnesium oxide dissolve. Very few appeared to understand that excess magnesium oxide is needed to ensure that all of the acid reacts. Most students knew that filtration separates solids from liquids or solutions, but many did not refer specifically to removing the excess magnesium oxide.

05.5 Very few students knew that a water bath or an electric heater should be used, despite this being stated in the specification.

Answer 21 · Examiner comments November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

05.6 Those who followed the method provided in the question were often successful in scoring at least one mark. It was common to see the number of moles of iron calculated by dividing the mass by 112 instead of 56. Those who calculated the number of moles of chlorine often insisted on converting this to a mass and then back again to calculate the volume of chlorine.

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.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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

Answer 23 · Examiner comments

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

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

08.1 While over a half of students scored one mark on this question, very few scored all four. Many referred to a pH being more or less acidic, without referring to higher or lower pH values. Few students mentioned hydrogen ions, so limited themselves to Level 2. The strength of an acid was explained better than the concentration; very few students could state that the more concentrated the acid, the more of it there is per unit volume. Even those who did know the definition often stated that the concentration of the acid was the number of hydrogen ions per unit volume, rather than the acid molecules. There were vague statements such as the strength of an acid depends on the extent of ionisation, without giving the direction of that dependency. Some otherwise good answers were compromised by incorrect links to pH, such as 'the stronger the acid the higher the pH'. Many students made incorrect statements trying to link strength to concentration, not recognising that they are entirely separate.

08.2 Most students were able to explain that the first titration is anomalous and the mean of the other four titrations is used. Some correctly described this as taking the mean of the concordant results, or the mean of the results within 0.10 cm^3. Incorrect answers included that the value used was the mean of all five results, or that it was the mode or median of the results.

08.3 There were many fully correct answers. Some students use a table approach without showing their working for each entry in the table, so that if an intermediate step is incorrect it is difficult to see what the student has done in subsequent steps. Some students calculated their number of moles incorrectly due to not converting their volume from cm^3 to dm^3; in this case they often repeated the error, obtaining what looked like a correct answer. In a multi-step calculation working must be shown.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 23 · Examiner comments June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

08.4 Although many students scored one mark, very few scored all three. There was a lot of confusion evident over the mechanism of conductivity in a solution. Many students stated that ions allow delocalised electrons to be passed from one to another, rather than the flow of ions themselves constituting the electric current. Many of those students who did understand the mechanism only considered the removal of one pair of ions (usually the barium and sulfate ions, but sometimes the hydrogen and hydroxide ions), and few said categorically that there were no longer **any** ions which were mobile in the solution.

08.5 Few students recognized that the excess barium hydroxide provided ions that were free to move in solution. There was confusion evident between neutralised in the context of positive and negative charges, and neutralised in the context of pH. Some stated that OH^- ions contain a delocalised electron.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 23 · Examiner comments

June 2022 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Use of statistics

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Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 24 · 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 24 · 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.

Answer 25 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

Question 2 (standard demand)

02.1 This was very well answered by the majority of students, with nearly two thirds scoring both marks. Most stated that both atoms have one outer shell electron and that potassium has one more shell than sodium. Sometimes the wrong number of shells was given for the two elements; usually 2 shells for sodium and 3 for potassium. Some stated that potassium has more outer shells than sodium. This is not correct as the phrase 'outer shell' is always taken to mean the single outermost shell. Some students gave consequences of the electronic structure rather than referring to the electronic structure itself; this was not given credit. Simply stating that the number of electrons is different did not answer the question; the number of electrons is not the electronic configuration.

02.2 More than two thirds of students gave two correct observations, with bubbling and a flame being the most popular. 'Gas produced' did not gain credit as it is not an observation but a deduction from the observation of bubbling. 'Fizzing' is taken to mean effervescence, so fizzing and bubbling are the same thing rather than two different observations. Credit was not given for any observation requiring extra equipment such as a thermometer or an indicator.

02.3 Well over half of students gave a correct colour and a correct reason, either in terms of the solution being alkaline or containing hydroxide ions. Nearly three quarters of students gained one mark. Some students had evidently seen, and remembered, the experiment done with phenolphthalein in the water, and therefore stated the indicator colour to be pink even though they knew the solution to be alkaline. Some answers were not clearly expressed; 'potassium is an alkali' did not gain credit as it is the potassium hydroxide solution that is alkaline. There were

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Answer 25 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q2

also, however, some excellent answers in terms of the hydroxide ion produced causing the solution to be alkaline.

02.4 More than four fifths of students plotted all of their points accurately. Many also drew a line of best fit although this was not required. A few drew their points as small dots instead of crosses, making it very difficult for the examiners to see them on a scanned image. Points do need to be visible, albeit sharp.

02.5 Students could nearly always estimate the density of krypton to within the tolerance allowed. Many used a line of best fit to do so although this was not necessary. In some cases inappropriate methods were used, such as finding the mean of all the other values; this did not gain credit even if it gave a value withing the range allowed.

02.6 Three quarters of students identified the correct pair of solutions, with the spread of incorrect responses being approximately equal.

02.7 Over two thirds of students identified the correct pair of trends. Most of the incorrect responses thought that boiling point decreases down the group.

4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 26 · Examiner comments

June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

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

09.1 Over a half of students knew that a weak acid is one which is partially ionised, although many forgot to state that this was in aqueous solution. Some students incorrectly stated that an acid is ionising (ionises other species) rather than ionised (is itself ionised). Some incorrectly stated that it was H^+ ions which are ionised or dissociated, rather than the acid molecules. The H^+ ions are the result of the ionisation or dissociation.

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4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Answer 26 · Examiner comments June 2024 | 8462/1H | Original Q9

09.2 Two thirds of students realised that the pH would increase. Some did not give the direction of the change, saying the pH would become 'closer to 7' but not saying from which direction. Far fewer were able to articulate the reason in terms of the decrease in concentration of hydrogen ions. There were, however, some excellent answers in terms of the decrease of the number of hydrogen ions per unit volume.

09.3 Many students gave three or four correct steps in the procedure. However, many omitted to say that the alkali should be measured with a (volumetric) pipette, which is an essential step, so did not gain full marks. Most students remembered to add an indicator, although some suggested using universal indicator, which is not suitable for a titration. Most also suggested using a white tile, and many correctly said that the titration should be carried out in a conical flask. Carrying out the titration in a beaker did not gain credit because of the risk of spillage while swirling. Those who suggested taking the initial burette reading, or filling to a particular reading, often expressed themselves poorly; a burette does not give readings of 'amount.'

09.4 Over two thirds of students scored one mark, but fewer than a half scored both. The most common approach was to calculate the volume in dm^3 and then convert to cm^3. Students who took this approach very often scored at least one mark, either by converting an incorrect volume to cm^3 or getting the first step right but forgetting to convert the units. A common error was to multiply the moles and concentration together.

Students who took the alternative approach, converting the concentration to mol/cm^3 first, were less successful; they often multiplied by 1000 in the first step instead of dividing and then did not know how to use the number of moles.

09.5 This high demand question discriminated well; fewer than a third of students scored all three marks but nearly three quarters scored at least one mark. The best answers picked up on the information that calcium atoms are larger, and applied knowledge about reactivity in Group 1 metals to this unfamiliar context. Imprecise language lost some students credit: 'electrons are further away' mentions neither the outer electrons nor the nucleus; 'force between the outer electrons and the nucleus' does not specify an attractive force; 'more outer shells' is not correct because 'outer' is always taken to mean the one shell furthest from the nucleus. It was not uncommon to see the force between the nucleus and the outer electrons described incorrectly as intermolecular. Some students referred to the larger size of the atom as if this referred to a lump of calcium and tried to answer in terms of larger surface area for the acid to attack giving a higher rate of reaction.

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4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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

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4.4.2.4 The pH scale and neutralisation

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

08.1 Three quarters of students could give the correct formula for the hydroxide ion. The most common error was H^+. A surprising number did not attempt to answer.

08.2 This was surprisingly answered less successfully, with fewer than two thirds gaining a single mark and very few scoring all four. Many suggested using phenolphthalein or methyl orange instead of Universal Indicator, but few were able to express the reason

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in terms of a sharp or sudden colour change rather than the gradual change seen with Universal Indicator. The next most common improvement was to add the sodium hydroxide solution dropwise near the end point, but again the reason was not clear, with 'results' or 'amount' often stated instead of 'volume', and 'precise' instead of 'accurate'. These words are not synonymous.

There were many spurious 'improvements' such as having the acid in the burette and the alkali in the flask; it does not matter which way round the solutions are used. Some think that a measuring cylinder is more accurate than a pipette – they are confusing a pipette used for measuring volume with a dropping pipette.

08.3 The vast majority gave the correct reading. The most common error was 25.3 cm^3.

08.4 This question discriminated well. Nearly a half gave fully correct answers, while two thirds were able to score at least one mark, often for applying the correct mole ratio. A common error was to use the mole ratio the wrong way round, giving an answer of 0.24 mol/dm^3, or to ignore the mole ratio completely, giving an answer of 0.48 mol/dm^3. Sometimes the volumes were not converted to dm^3, leading to incorrect statements such as 'moles acid = 5.4'. Whilst these responses often led to the answer of 0.96 mol/dm^3, they did not gain full credit. Sometimes the volume conversion was attempted but incorrect, eg multiplying cm^3 by 1000. Students who tried to bring masses into the calculation were rarely able to make any progress.

08.5 The vast majority chose the correct statement, but a minority thought that the hydrochloric acid was more concentrated as well as stronger.

08.6 Students struggled with this high demand question, with only one in ten scoring one mark. The question demanded precise use of technical terms and use of the data in the table. Few mentioned the concentration of hydrogen ions, so could not gain credit; they referred to 'number' of hydrogen ions or 'more' hydrogen ions (in an unspecified volume) or concentration of 'acid'. Even fewer calculated the concentration of hydrogen ions in each acid from the data in the table, to back up their argument. Many students seem to think that pH depends only on the strength of an acid. pH depends on the hydrogen ion concentration, which in turn depends on a combination of both the strength and the concentration of acid molecules. Many also seem to think that acids are ionising, rather than ionised.