AQA GCSE Chemistry | 8462

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.6.1.3

Collision theory and activation energy

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**17**
Available paper years	**2008–2024**

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.

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

January 2008 | CHY2H | Original Q1 | Legacy

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

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	either: calculations: all correct (ethanol = 6, methanol = 3, peanut oil = 10, vegetable oil = 15) **or** implication of correct calculation (vegetable oil) gives largest temperature / heat increase <u>per gram</u> (owtte)	ignore repetition of data from table unqualified allow 'produced most heat in proportion to the fuel used' owtte for **1** mark	2
(b)	any **one** from: • smoke • soot • carbon • carbon monoxide • carbon dioxide • global warming / climate change / greenhouse gases • (air) pollution • harmful / poisonous scrub / wash the gases owtte	owtte ignore references to crops/food filter / remove (gases / fumes / appropriate named substance) owtte (add extra oxygen) can burn more efficiently owtte use a cleaner fuel owtte plant more trees or similar linked to CO_2 any sensible answer 'don't burn so much fuel' insufficient alone ignore extractor fans / air conditioning	1 1

continued…

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

CHY3H

Question 1 continued…

question	answers	extra information	mark
(c)(i)	A		1
(c)(ii)	B		1
total			6

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

January 2008 | CHY3H | Original Q1 | Legacy

CHY3H

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY2H | Original Q5 | Legacy

Question 5

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(a)(i)	0.2	correct answer gains **2** marks with or without working accept answer in table if answer incorrect 5/25 gains **1** mark	2
5(a)(ii)	any **one** from: • wider range of temperatures (owtte) • (repeat at the same temperature) to improve accuracy / reliability • reveal anomalous results (owtte) • so you can get an average / better average	 allow to make it reliable / accurate allow to eliminate random / human errors / to check results owtte ignore to make it a fair test / to get better results ignore precision and validity	1
5(b)	any **two** from: • particles gain energy / have more energy • particles move faster • particles collide more • more of the particles have the activation energy **or** more of the collisions are successful (owtte) **or** particles collide with more force / harder / more energy	allow atoms / molecules / they instead of particles throughout ignore increases particles activation energy ignore move more / vibrate more ignore increases / decreases activation energy allow more successful collisions alone for **1** mark	2
Total			**5**

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY2H | Original Q5 | Legacy

CHY2H

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY3H | Original Q6 | Legacy

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(a)	energy of product greater than energy of reactants	allow converse allow energy = heat do **not** accept temperature for energy allow product / nitrogen oxide is higher than reactants allow less energy / heat given out than taken in allow energy / heat is taken in / gained allow ΔH is positive	1
6(b)	(minimum) energy needed to start the reaction / overcome energy barrier	accept (minimum) energy needed for a collision to be successful	1
6(c)(i)	bonds broken = 945 + 498 = 1443 (kJ) bonds made = 2 × 630 = 1260 (kJ) energy change = 1443 – 1260 = (+) 183	correct answer with or without working = **3** marks ignore sign allow ecf	1 1 1
6(c)(ii)	energy released forming new bonds is less than energy needed to break existing bonds owtte	allow converse accept energy change(ΔH) is + / positive do **not** accept energy <u>needed to form new bonds</u> is less than energy needed to break existing bonds	1
Total			**6**

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

January 2010 | CHY3H | Original Q6 | Legacy

CHY3H

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2010 | CHY2H | Original Q6 | Legacy

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(a)	same number of (gaseous) molecules / moles / volume on both sides of the equation	allow particles for molecules do **not** accept atoms ignore amount	1
6(b)	(forward) reaction is exothermic	accept reverse answer	1
6(c)	any **three** from: • particles gain energy • particles move faster • particles collide more **or** more collisions • more of the collisions are successful **or** more of the particles have the activation energy **or** particles collide with more force / energy	 allow particles collide faster / quicker ignore move more / vibrate more	3

Question 6 continues on the next page

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

CHY 2H

Question 6 continued

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(d)	any **two** from: • more product (obtained in shorter time) • less fuel needed **or** lower fuel costs • less pollution caused by burning fuels **or** less specified type of pollution caused by producing heat / burning fuels • using less fuel conserves resources	 accept better yield (of product) accept less energy / heat / electricity needed ignore cheaper unqualified allow correct specified pollutants caused by burning fossil fuels eg CO_2 / greenhouse gases **or** correct effect of burning fossil fuels eg global warming accept thermal / heat pollution accept sustainable accept fossil fuels are non-renewable	2
Total			**7**

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 06 · Mark scheme June 2014 | CH2HP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
3(a)	O_2 in correct space		1	2 / 2.4	E
	correct balancing	accept multiples	1		
3(b)(i)		*incorrect reference to energy = max **2***		1 / 2.4.1d	E
		ignore references to equilibrium			
	rate increases		1		
	because particles are closer together	accept because there are more particles (per unit volume)	1		
		allow particles have less space / room to move around			
	so frequency of collisions increases	*accept particles are more likely to collide*	1		
		ignore more collisions			
		ignore more successful collisions			
3(b)(ii)	has a greater surface area		1	3 / 2.4.1f/g	E
	so the reaction is faster	*accept so more frequent collisions*	1		
3(c)	the (minimum) amount of energy (particles must have) to react ***or*** *to start a reaction*	accept the energy needed to break bonds	1	1 / 2.4.1b	E
		ignore references to heat			
3(d)(i)	(potassium is) too / *very* reactive	*ignore potassium is a Group 1 / alkali metal*	1	1 + 2 / 2.6.1b	E
	so dangerous / *violent reaction*	accept hydrogen produced rapidly	1		
3(d)(ii)		accept products in either order		2 / 2.6.2b	E
		ignore names of substances			
		*do **not** accept brackets or charges in the formulae*			
	$ZnSO_4$		1		
	H_2		1		

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

3(d)(iii)	any **one** from: • increase concentration (of sulfuric acid) • increase temperature **or** heat it • increase surface area of zinc		1	1 / 2.4.1	E
Total			**13**		

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH2HP | Original Q3 | Legacy



4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH3HP | Original Q6 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.	ID
6(a)	electrical		1	1 / 3.3.1i	G
6(b)	using hydrogen saves petrol / diesel / *crude oil* *using hydrogen (in fuel cells) does not cause pollution*	allow crude oil is non-renewable *ignore hydrogen is renewable* accept no carbon dioxide produced *allow less carbon dioxide produced* *allow hydrogen produces only water*	1 1	3 / 3.3.1i	E
6(c)(i)	(–)486	correct answer with or without working gains **3** marks if answer is incorrect: (2 x 436) + 498 **or** 1370 gains **1** mark 4 x 464 **or** 1856 gains **1** mark *correct subtraction of ecf* gains **1** mark	3	2 / 3.3.1f	E
6(c)(ii)	products lower than reactants *reaction curve correctly drawn* activation energy labelled		1 1 1	1 + 2 / 3.3.1d	E
Total			9		

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 07 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | CH3HP | Original Q6 | Legacy



4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

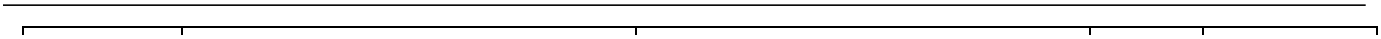
June 2015 | CH3HP | Original Q6 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
6(a)(i)	nothing can enter **and** nothing can leave the reaction	allow sealed reaction vessel	1	**AO1** 3.5.1.c
6(a)(ii)	forward and backward reactions have same rate so there is no (overall) change in quantities of reactants and products	 allow concentrations of reactants and products	1 1	**AO1/ AO2** 3.5.1.c
6(b)(i)	natural gas	allow methane / CH_4 allow fossil fuels / hydrocarbons allow water	1	**AO1** 3.5.1.a
6(b)(ii)	provides an alternative reaction pathway which has a lower activation energy	 ignore references to collisions	1 1	**AO1** 3.3.1.h
6(b)(iii)	the amount (of ammonia) increases the equilibrium moves to the side (of the equation) with fewer (gaseous) molecules / moles	allow yield increases allow it favours the forward reaction	1 1	**AO1/ AO2** 3.5.1.d/g
6(c)(i)	vertical arrow from reactants to maximum		1	**AO2** 3.3.1.e
6(c)(ii)	(energy of) products higher than (energy of) reactants	allow converse	1	**AO2** 3.3.1.d
6(c)(iii)	amount of hydrogen iodide decreases equilibrium moves in the direction of the endothermic reaction	 allow it favours the forward reaction	1 1	**AO1/ AO2** 3.5.1.d/e
Total			**12**	

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | CH3HP | Original Q6 | Legacy



4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 09 · Mark scheme June 2016 | CH2HP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / SpecRef
4(a)	because sulfur / S (forms) (which) is solid / insoluble / a precipitate/ a suspension		1 1	AO2 2.6.1a
4(b)	any **two** from: • volume of sodium thiosulfate • volume of (hydrochloric) acid • concentration of sodium thiosulfate • concentration of (hydrochloric) acid	ignore amount of sodium thiosulfate ignore amount of (hydrochloric) acid if no other mark, allow **1** mark for same cross **or** same flask **or** unspecified volume **or** unspecified concentration ignore same person do **not** accept references to temperature	2	AO3 2.4.1
4(c)	rate increases because particles move faster so frequency of collisions increases more particles/ collisions have energy greater than (or equal to) the activation energy	 accept particles have more energy accept particles are more likely to collide **or** more chance of collisions ignore more collisions	1 1 1 1	AO1 2.4.1b,c
4(d)	cool **or** decrease the temperature (of the solutions)	accept refrigerate **or** method to decrease temperature	1	AO3 2.4.1c
Total			**9**	

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

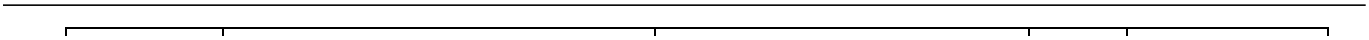
June 2016 | CH3HP | Original Q5 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / SpecRef
5(a)	CH_4 + $2O_2$ → CO_2 + $2H_2O$	allow multiples	1	AO2 3.3.1a
5(b)	3444 J	if answer incorrect: one mark for temperature increase = 16.4 °C one mark for mass of water = 50 g ecf for one incorrect value gains two marks for correct calculation no ecf for two incorrect values	3	AO2 3.3.1a
5(c)(i)	1276 (kJ per mole)	ignore + or - if answer incorrect: [(5 x 413) + 347 + 358 +467] + [(3 x 495)] = 4722 (1 mark) [(4 x 799) + (6 x 467)] = 5998 (1 mark) correct subtraction of calculated energy values (1 mark)	3	AO2 3.3.1f
5(c)(ii)	because energy released when bonds form is greater than energy used when bonds broken	allow converse if no mark awarded allow one mark for energy is used to break bonds or one mark for energy is released when bonds form	2	AO1 3.3.1e,f
5(c)(iii)	products line lower than reactants activation energy labelled overall energy change labelled		1 1 1	2AO2 / 1AO3 3.3.1d
Total			12	

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 10 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | CH3HP | Original Q5 | Legacy

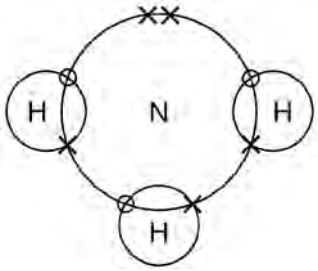


4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 11 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1		 scores **2** marks allow dots, crosses, circles or $e^{(-)}$ for electrons		AO1 4.2.1.4
	1 bonding pair of electrons in each overlap		1	
	2 non-bonding electrons on nitrogen	do **not** accept non-bonding electrons on hydrogen ignore inner shell electrons drawn on nitrogen	1	
05.2	does not show the shape **or** only two-dimensional	allow is not three-dimensional	1	AO1 4.2.1.4
05.3	(ammonia has) small molecules	allow (ammonia has) a simple molecular (structure)	1	AO1 4.2.2.1 4.2.2.4
	(ammonia has) weak intermolecular forces	allow (ammonia has) weak intermolecular bonds do **not** accept weak covalent bonds	1	
	(so) little energy is needed to overcome the intermolecular forces	allow (so) little energy is needed to break the intermolecular bonds allow (so) little energy is needed to separate the molecules do **not** accept references to breaking covalent bonds	1	

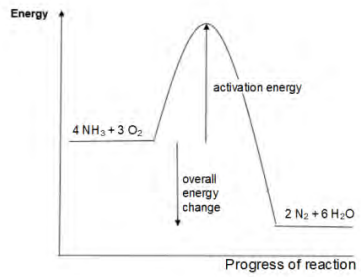
4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 11 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

05.4	Cr_2O_3		1	AO2 4.1.3.2
05.5	(for bonds broken) ((12 x 391) + (3 x 498) =) 6186 (for bonds made) ((2 x 945) + (12 x 464) =) 7458 (overall energy change = 6186-7458 =) (-)1272 (kJ)	an answer of (-)1272 (kJ) scores **3** marks allow correct calculation using incorrectly calculated values from step 1 and/or step 2	1 1 1	AO2 4.5.1.3

Question 5 continued

05.6	7458 (kJ) (released in making bonds) is greater than 6186 (kJ) (used in breaking bonds) **or** the products have 1272 (kJ) less energy than the reactants	allow ecf from question **05.5** allow the (overall) energy change is -1272 (kJ)	1	AO2 4.5.1.3
	(so) energy is released (to the surroundings)	dependent on MP1 being awarded allow (so) heat is released (to the surroundings) if no values given, allow **1** mark for more energy released in making bonds than used in breaking bonds	1	
05.7		 scores **2** marks allow discontinuous lines ignore arrow heads		AO1 4.5.1.2
	activation energy labelled		1	
	(overall) energy change labelled		1	
Total			**14**	

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/2H | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	glowing splint	do **not** accept burning splint	1	AO1 4.8.2.2
	(which) relights	dependent on correct test in MP1 ignore with a pop	1	
09.2	place the conical flask in a water bath at constant temperature.		1	AO3 4.6.1.2
	use a mass of 1 g manganese dioxide each time.		1	
09.3		an answer of 0.092 (cm^3/s) scores **3** marks allow an answer of 0.091666 (cm^3/s) correctly rounded to at least 2 significant figures for **2** marks allow an answer of 0.033 (cm^3/s) for **2** marks allow an answer of 0.033333 (cm^3/s) for **1** mark		AO2 4.6.1.1
	11 (cm^3) **and** 120 (seconds)		1	
	(mean rate of reaction = $\frac{11}{120}$) = 0.09167	allow a correct calculation using incorrectly determined value(s) for difference in volume and / or time	1	
	= 0.092 (cm^3/s)	allow a correctly calculated answer given to 2 significant figures from an incorrect attempt at the rate equation	1	

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 12 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8462/2H | Original Q9

09.4	line starts at origin **and** less steep than solid line line levelling off at 40 (cm^3)	 allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square	1 1	AO2 AO3 4.6.1.2
09.5	(because) surface area (of fine manganese dioxide powder) greater (so) more collisions (with hydrogen peroxide molecules / particles) per unit time	allow converse for coarse lumps do **not** accept references to changes in kinetic energy or speed (of molecules / particles) ignore references to activation energy.	1 1	AO2 4.6.1.2 4.6.1.3
Total			**11**	

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 13 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q6

Question 6

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

Question 6 continued

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

Question 6 continued

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

Question 6 continued

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

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

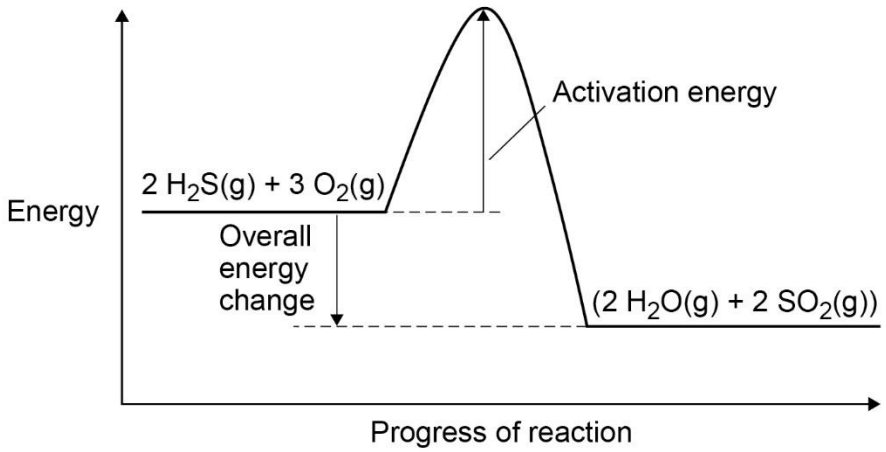
Answer 14 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	water vapour	allow steam allow gaseous water	1	AO1 4.1.1.1 4.2.2.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	75 (cm^3)		1	AO2 4.3.5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3	product level below reactants activation energy drawn and labelled overall energy change drawn and labelled  scores **3** marks	ignore labelling of products if endothermic profile drawn allow corresponding overall energy change	1 1 1	AO1 4.5.1.2

Question 8 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	(bonds broken = 4(364) + 3(498) =) 2950		1	AO2 4.5.1.3
	(bonds formed = 2950 + 1034 =) 3984	allow correct use of incorrectly calculated values of bonds broken	1	
	4**X** + 4(464) = 3984	allow correct use of incorrectly calculated values of bonds formed	1	
	4**X** = **(**3984 – 1856 =) 2128		1	
	X = 532 (kJ/mol)		1	
	alternative approach: (bonds broken = 4(364) + 3(498) =) 2950 (1)			
	(bonds formed = 4(464) + 4**X** =) 1856 + 4**X** (1)			
	(1856 + 4**X**) – 2950 = 1034 (1)	allow correct use of incorrectly calculated values of bonds broken and/or bonds formed		
	4**X** = (1034 + 2950 – 1856 =) 2128 (1)			
	X = 532 (kJ/mol) (1)			

Total			**10**

Answer 15 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8462/2H | Original Q9

Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	(delivery) tube is in (sulfuric) acid		1	AO3 4.6.1.2 RPA5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.2	reaction has stopped (because a) reactant is used up	allow no more gas produced allow named reactants	1 1	AO2 4.6.1.1 RPA5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	any **one** from: • the line (for 0.05 mol/dm^3 sulfuric acid) is less steep • (0.05 mol/dm^3 sulfuric acid) produces less gas in a fixed time • the reaction (using 0.05 mol/dm^3 sulfuric acid) takes longer to finish	allow converse statements about 0.10 mol/dm^3 sulfuric acid ignore produces less gas do **not** accept produces less gas in total	1	AO1 4.6.1.1 RPA5

Question 9 continued

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	tangent drawn at 80 s on 0.05 mol/dm^3 curve		1	AO2 4.6.1.1 RPA5
	(from tangent) value for *x*-step **and** value for *y*-step	allow a tolerance of ± ½ a small square	1	
	(rate =) $\frac{\text{value for } y\text{-step}}{\text{value for } x\text{-step}}$	allow correct use of incorrectly determined values from tangent for *x*-step and/or *y*-step	1	
	calculation of rate	allow an answer correctly calculated to 2 significant figures	1	
	answer to 2 significant figures	from an incorrect calculation of rate	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5	Cu^{2+}		1	AO2 4.1.3.2 4.6.1.4

Total			10

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

Question 4

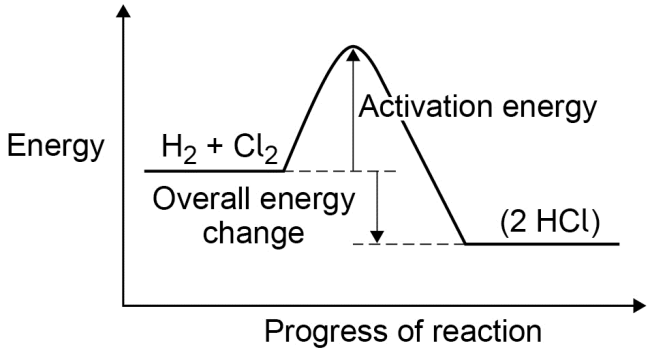
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.1	436 + 346 − (2 × 432) kJ/mol		1	AO2 4.5.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.2	energy is needed to break bonds **and** energy is released when bonds form (and) the energy released is greater than the energy needed	 allow the energy transferred in bond making is greater than the energy transferred in bond breaking allow 2 x 432 (kJ/mol) is greater than 436 + 346 (kJ/mol) allow the overall energy change is negative	1 1	AO1 4.5.1.3

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

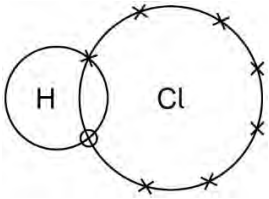
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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.3		ignore arrow heads		
	profile completed with product energy below reactant energy		1	AO1
	activation energy labelled from reactant energy to top of curve		1	AO1
	overall energy change labelled from reactant energy to product energy		1	AO2 4.5.1.2
	an answer of 			
	scores **3** marks			

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.4		allow any combination of x, o, $e^{(-)}$, • for electrons do **not** accept molecules containing more than 2 atoms		AO1 4.2.1.4
	bonded pair of electrons in the overlap		1	
	chlorine with 6 non-bonded electrons	do **not** accept if extra electrons on H an answer of  scores **2** marks **or** an answer of  scores **2** marks	1	

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 16 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.5	(methane) methane has (much) smaller molecules		1	AO1 4.2.2.4 4.2.2.5
	(so) has weaker intermolecular forces	do **not** accept reference to weak(er) covalent bonds	1	
	(so the intermolecular forces) need less energy to overcome	do **not** accept reference to breaking covalent bonds	1	
	(so) the boiling / melting point is lower (and methane is a gas) **OR** (poly(ethene)) poly(ethene) has (much) larger molecules (1)		1	
	(so) has stronger intermolecular forces (1)	do **not** accept reference to weak(er) covalent bonds		
	(so the intermolecular forces) need more energy to break (1)	do **not** accept reference to breaking covalent bonds		
	(so) the melting / boiling point is higher (and poly(ethene) is a solid) (1)			

Total Question 4	12

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8462/2H | Original Q2

Question 2

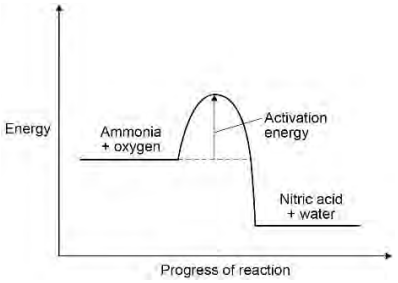
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	to recycle (remaining) nitrogen and hydrogen	allow to recycle unreacted gases allow to return nitrogen and hydrogen to the reactor	1	AO1 4.10.4.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.2	iron	allow Fe	1	AO1 4.6.1.4 4.10.4.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.3	(test) glowing splint (result) (splint) relights	 MP2 is dependent upon MP1 being awarded	 1 1	AO1 4.8.2.2

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 17 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.4	labelled vertical arrow from dotted line to peak ammonia **and** oxygen on left **and** nitric acid **and** water on right	ignore arrow heads allow NH_3 for ammonia allow O_2 for oxygen allow HNO_3 for nitric acid allow H_2O for water an answer of  scores **2** marks	1 1	AO2 4.6.1.4 4.10.4.1 4.10.4.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.5	the line would reach a higher peak		1	AO1 4.6.1.4 4.10.4.1 4.10.4.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.6	fertilisers	allow explosives allow sports injury packs	1	AO3 4.10.4.1 4.10.4.2

Total Question 2	**8**

Answer 11 · Examiner comments

June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

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

05.1 Approximately three-quarters of students were able to complete the dot and cross diagram correctly.

The mark for the bonding electrons was scored more often than the mark for the non-bonding electrons.

05.2 Only a small proportion of students were able to give a limitation of a dot and cross diagram.

The most common correct response was that the molecule was not shown in 3 dimensions.

Common responses seen that were not credited included:

- only shows the outer electrons
- does not show the structure
- does not show the intermolecular forces.

05.3 Students found this question difficult.

The mark for indicating the presence of weak intermolecular forces was most often awarded. However, some students referred to 'intermolecular forces' incorrectly, for example, weak intermolecular forces between the atoms / bonds.

A common misconception was that covalent bonds are weak and that it is these bonds that are broken when ammonia boils.

Ammonia consisting of small molecules was the mark least often awarded.

05.4 Students found identification of a metal oxide most likely to be used as a catalyst difficult.

The correct answer, the transition metal oxide, Cr_2O_3, was the most common choice of catalyst but the other 3 options were all chosen in significant numbers, especially MgO.

05.5 Approximately two-thirds of students correctly calculated the overall energy change.

The most common error was to incorrectly determine, or not determine, the number of each type of bond from the given equation.

05.6 Students found this question challenging. In particular, students did not always use values from their previous calculation as instructed in the question. A common non-scoring response was simply to define an exothermic reaction.

Few students compared their calculated values for bond breaking and bond making as was intended. Some referred in general terms to these processes but often used incorrect terms, for example, more energy was <u>needed</u> for making bonds than used for breaking bonds.

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 11 · Examiner comments June 2019 | 8462/1H | Original Q5

05.7 The completion of the energy profile was often done well with almost two-thirds of students scoring both marks.

Some students were imprecise with the positioning of their lines.

Other common errors included:

- Not drawing a line for activation energy, just labelling the peak.
- Drawing a line from the peak to the products line for 'overall energy change'.

Answer 13 · Examiner comments November 2020 | 8462/1H | Original Q6

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

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

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

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

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

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 14 · Examiner comments

November 2021 | 8462/1H | Original Q8

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

08.3 Whilst there were many excellent answers, many were very carelessly drawn, with arrows for activation energy and overall energy change being placed so that their start and end were only vaguely near the correct levels. Dotted lines should be drawn to clarify the energy gaps. Some drew the profile for an endothermic change, rather than exothermic, and some did not complete the profile, leaving out the energy level of the products. Some appeared to think that the activation energy is the energy at the peak, rather than the difference between the energy of the reactants and the peak.

08.4 A good number of students were successful with this calculation, although some failed to count all of the bonds correctly. Where students made a slip of this nature, or an arithmetic error, it was sometimes impossible to award marks for following through with the method, since there was often a jumble of numbers scattered over the page with no words to explain what was going on. 'Bonds broken' and 'bonds made' should be stated in calculations of this type. Many students did not use the value of 1034 kJ/mol provided.

Answer 15 · Examiner comments

November 2021 | 8462/2H | Original Q9

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

09.1 Only around a third of students knew this, which may reflect a lack of practical experience.

09.2 Many students were able to say that the reaction had stopped but only a much smaller number could explain why.

09.3 Around half of the students were able to explain this in a valid way, usually by reference to the slope of the line.

09.4 There was a wide spread of marks here. There is still confusion between mean and instantaneous rate of reaction, so students who approached this as a mean reaction rate usually only scored one mark for giving an answer to 2 significant figures. Amongst the better responses, the first mark was sometimes dropped because the tangent was not close enough to 80 seconds. Some students were able to obtain all 5 marks.

09.5 Around one-third of students identified copper(II) as the only transition metal amongst the choices and therefore more likely to have a catalytic effect.

4.6.1.3 Collision theory and activation energy

Answer 16 · Examiner comments

June 2023 | 8462/1H | Original Q4

Question 4 (standard and standard/high demand)

04.1 The great majority of students gave the correct answer, with most of the rest split evenly between the first option (adding the three bond energies together) and the third (subtracting only one H—Cl bond).

04.2 This question discriminated well and there were some excellent answers that described the energy released in making new bonds being greater than the energy required to break old bonds. However, some implied that energy is required in both steps, and others only referred to the bond making process, omitting a consideration of the bond breaking process. There were misconceptions with some students referring to gases being lost and taking energy with them, and others responding that an exothermic reaction is one that loses matter, rather than energy.

04.3 This question discriminated well; half of the students were awarded all three marks, while nearly all scored one mark. Most students drew an exothermic profile, but fewer labelled the products. Those who drew an endothermic profile could still access the second and third marking points. A few did not complete the profile so were only able to access the mark for the activation energy. There were some arrows for the activation energy and overall energy change that were untidily drawn which made it impossible to judge whether they started and finished at the correct place. This is one example where using a ruler really does help the student. A few labelled the top of the curve as the activation energy, rather than the gap between the energy of the reactants and the top of the curve.

04.4 Nearly three quarters of students scored both marks. Many fully correct diagrams were seen. The majority of students chose to use the format with a ring around each atom, but answer without rings were equally acceptable. A few students drew an extra electron on either hydrogen or carbon, and some drew ions instead of a molecule.

04.5 This question proved to be difficult, with few students giving fully correct answers to gain all 4 marks and with a third of students gaining no credit.

To answer the question, students needed to compare the size of the molecules, hence the strength of the intermolecular forces, hence the energy required to break those forces and hence the boiling/melting points. However, many students did not mention molecules at all, seeming to believe that the polymer is a giant structure. There was much confusion between bonds and intermolecular forces. Students sometimes think that by including both intermolecular forces and covalent bonds they will cover all eventualities, but this often results in contradictions which lose marks. Students often thought intermolecular forces had to be broken in methane but bonds had to be broken in poly(ethene). Many did not refer to the energy requirement or to the melting or boiling point.

Answer 17 · Examiner comments

Question 2 (standard demand)

02.1 Around two-fifths of students gained credit on this question. Some students referred to both hydrogen and nitrogen gases being recycled or reused. A few referred to only one of the gases or unspecified unreacted gases.

A number of students referred to excess gases or gases alone. In addition, some students focused their answer on the condenser part of the flow chart and responded with the idea that uncondensed gases needed to be recycled.

02.2 This question was answered well by the majority of students, with roughly two-thirds of students gaining the mark.

02.3 Although this question was answered well, some students referred to a splint being lit initially and then blown out. These students did not often mention the splint was still glowing. The majority of students who stated glowing splint also gained the second marking point. Around three-quarters of students gained both marks; of those who did not, most described the test for hydrogen.

02.4 There were many variations of drawing the arrow for the activation energy. A number of students labelled the activation energy with abbreviations such as E_a. The majority of students correctly named the reactants and products and placed them above and below the lines, with a few using arrows to point out their positions. More than 60% of students gained both marks.

02.5 This multiple-choice question was well answered, with around 70% of students gaining credit. The most popular distractor was that the peak would be lower rather than higher.

02.6 This question was answered extremely well with fertiliser or NPK fertiliser. A small minority stated farming or agricultural use unqualified. Only a handful of students identified its use in explosives or sports injury packs.

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