AQA GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy | 8464

SPECIFICATION POINT 5.1.2.5

Group 1

Past-paper questions

Tier	**Foundation**
Question groups	**12**
Available paper years	**2018–2025**

Using this booklet

1. Answer the questions in order and show your working.
2. Original question numbers and marks are retained.
3. Print at actual size (100%) for measuring questions.
4. Use the companion answer booklet to check your work.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Whole questions are retained for context, so some parts assess other specification points. Current and legacy sources are labelled. Continue on extra paper if needed.

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 01

June 2018 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q2

0 2 This question is about the halogens.

0 2 . 1 Which group in the periodic table is known as the halogens?

[1 mark]

Tick **one** box.

Group 1 ☐

Group 2 ☐

Group 7 ☐

Group 0 ☐

0 2 . 2 A fluorine atom has 7 electrons in the outer shell.

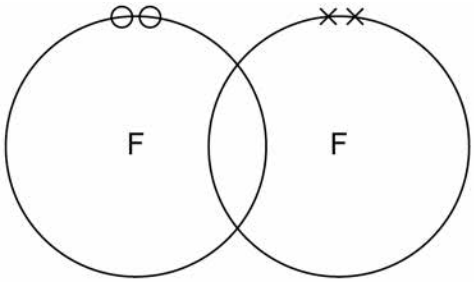
Figure 8 shows part of a dot and cross diagram to represent a molecule of fluorine (F_2).

Complete the dot and cross diagram.

You should show only the electrons in the outer shells.

[2 marks]

Figure 8



0 2 . 3 Chlorine reacts with potassium bromide solution.

Complete the word equation.

[2 marks]

chlorine + potassium bromide → _____ + _____

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 01 · continued

0 2 . 4 What type of reaction happens when chlorine reacts with potassium bromide solution?

[1 mark]

Tick **one** box.

- decomposition ☐
- displacement ☐
- neutralisation ☐
- precipitation ☐

0 2 . 5 Complete the sentence.

Choose the answer from the box.

[1 mark]

an atom	**an electron**	**a neutron**	**a proton**

Chlorine is more reactive than bromine.

This is because chlorine gains _____ more easily.

0 2 . 6 How does the size of a chlorine atom compare with the size of a bromine atom?

Complete the sentence.

Choose the answer from the box.

[1 mark]

bigger than	**the same size as**	**smaller than**

A chlorine atom is _____ a bromine atom.

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 01 · continued

0 2 . 7 Give a reason for your answer to question **02.6**

[1 mark]

Reason _____

_____

0 2 . 8 Fluorine reacts with chlorine to produce ClF_3

Balance the chemical equation for the reaction.

[1 mark]

$Cl_2 +$ _____ $F_2 \rightarrow 2\ ClF_3$

0 2 . 9 Explain why fluorine is a gas at room temperature.

Use the following words in your answer:

energy **forces** **molecules** **weak**

[3 marks]

13

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 02

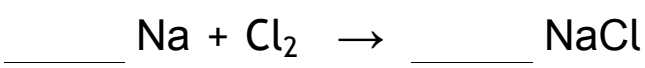
June 2019 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q4

0 4 This question is about Group 1 elements.

0 4 . 1 Sodium reacts with chlorine to produce sodium chloride.

Balance the equation for the reaction.

[1 mark]



0 4 . 2 4.6 g of sodium reacts with chlorine to produce 11.7 g of sodium chloride.

What mass of chlorine reacted?

[1 mark]

Mass of chlorine = _____ g

0 4 . 3 A teacher puts hot sodium into a gas jar of chlorine.

The changes seen before, during and after this reaction were observed.

Complete the sentences.

Choose the answers from the box.

[4 marks]

colourless	**green**	**lilac**	**silver**	**white**	**yellow**

Sodium is a _____ solid.

Chlorine is a _____ gas.

The hot sodium burns with a _____ flame.

The product sodium chloride is a _____ solid.

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 02 · continued

0 4 . 4 Sodium chloride (NaCl) is an ionic compound.

Write the formulae of the ions in sodium chloride.

[2 marks]

Sodium ion _____

Chloride ion _____

0 4 . 5 Complete the sentence.

Choose the answer from the box.

[1 mark]

an atom	**an electron**	**a neutron**	**a proton**

Potassium is more reactive than sodium.

This is because potassium loses _____ more easily than sodium.

0 4 . 6 How does the size of a potassium atom compare with the size of a sodium atom?

Give a reason for your answer.

[2 marks]

_____

Reason _____

_____

_____

11

5.1.2.5 Group 1

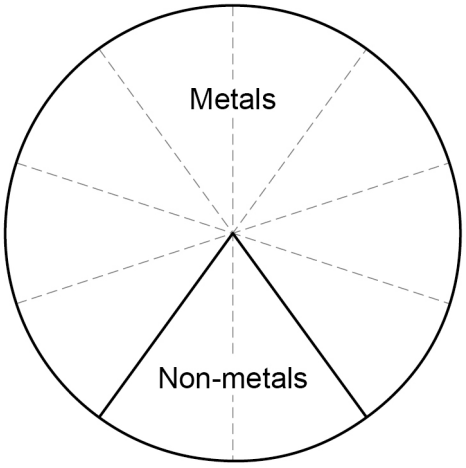
Question 03

November 2020 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q4

0 4 This question is about elements and compounds.

0 4 . 1 **Figure 5** shows the proportion of elements in the periodic table that are metals and non-metals.

Figure 5



Determine the percentage of the elements in **Figure 5** that are metals.

[2 marks]

Percentage = _____ %

0 4 . 2 Give **two** physical properties of metals.

[2 marks]

1 _____

2 _____

0 4 . 3 Sodium reacts with chlorine to produce sodium chloride.

Balance the equation for the reaction.

[1 mark]

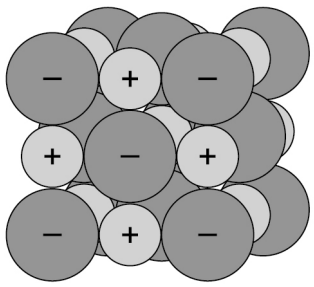
_____ $Na + Cl_2 \rightarrow$ _____ $NaCl$

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 03 · continued

Figure 6 shows part of the structure of sodium chloride (NaCl).

Figure 6



Sodium chloride

0 4 . 4 What holds the particles together in sodium chloride?

Use **Figure 6**.

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Electrostatic attractions ☐

Intermolecular forces ☐

Metallic bonds ☐

0 4 . 5 Solid sodium chloride does not conduct electricity.

Give **two** ways in which sodium chloride can be made to conduct electricity.

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

8

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 04

November 2020 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q5

0 5 This question is about elements in the periodic table.

0 5 . 1 What property was used to arrange elements in early periodic tables?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Atomic number ☐

Atomic weight ☐

Mass number ☐

0 5 . 2 In early periodic tables, iodine (I) was placed before tellurium (Te).

Mendeleev placed iodine after tellurium.

Figure 7 shows part of Mendeleev's periodic table.

Figure 7

16 **O**	19 **F**
32 **S**	35.5 **Cl**
79 **Se**	80 **Br**
128 **Te**	127 **I**

Suggest **one** reason why Mendeleev placed iodine in the column shown in **Figure 7**.

[1 mark]

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 04 · continued

Table 3 shows the melting points of three Group 1 metals.

Table 3

Metal	Melting point in °C
Lithium	180
Sodium	98
Potassium	63

0 5 . 3 What state is lithium at 100 °C?

Use **Table 3**.

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Gas ☐ Liquid ☐ Solid ☐

0 5 . 4 Complete the graph in **Figure 8**.

Use **Table 3**.

You should:

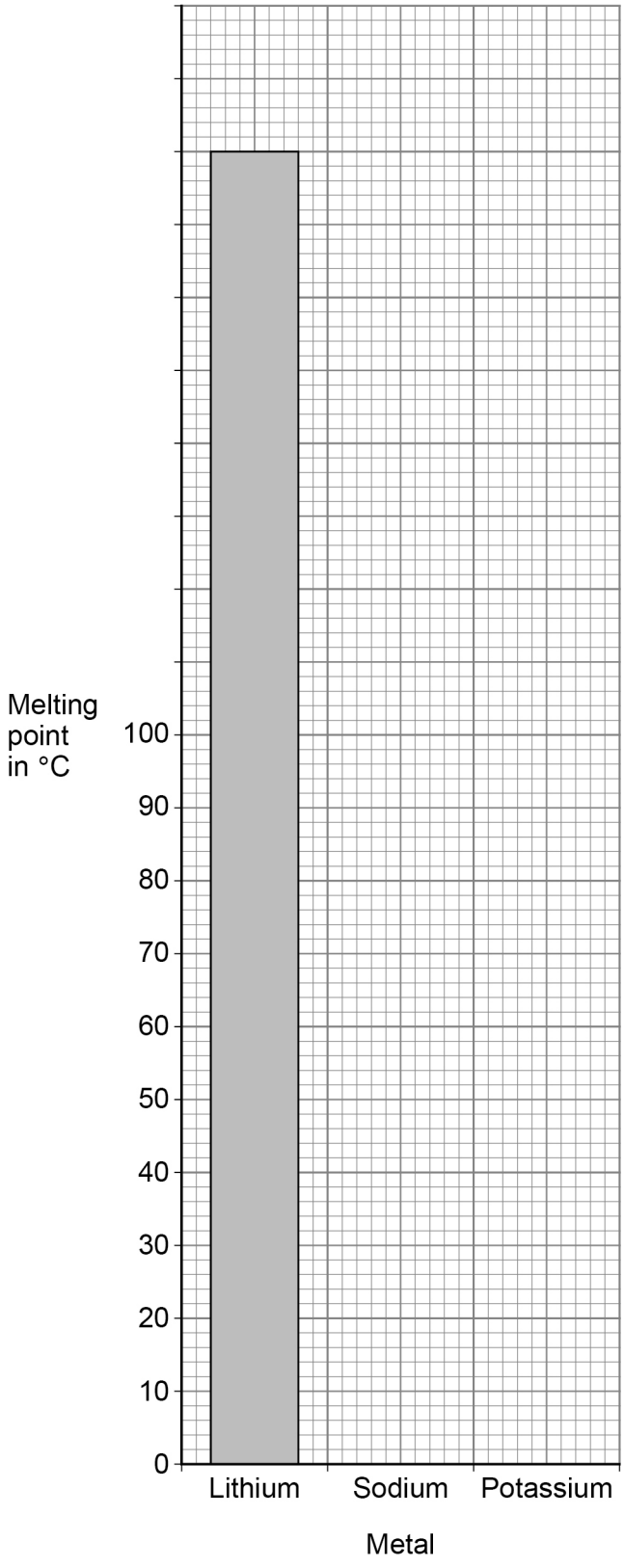
- complete the scale on the y-axis
- draw bars to show the melting points of sodium and potassium.

[3 marks]

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 04 · continued

Figure 8



5.1.2.5 Group 1

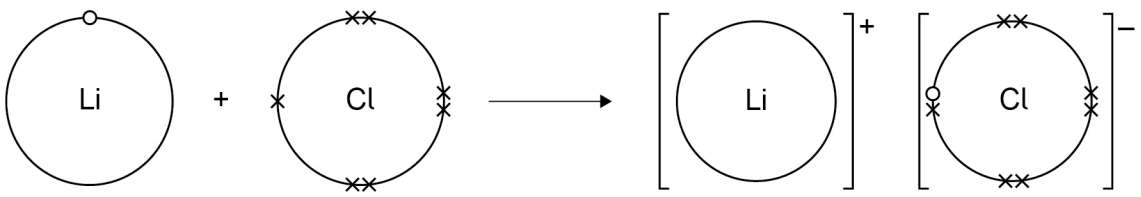
Question 04 · continued

0 5 . 5 Lithium reacts with chlorine to produce lithium chloride.

Figure 9 shows what happens to the electrons in the outer shells when a lithium atom reacts with a chlorine atom.

The dots (o) and crosses (x) represent electrons.

Figure 9



Describe what happens to a lithium atom and to a chlorine atom when they react.

Use **Figure 9** to answer in terms of electrons.

[3 marks]

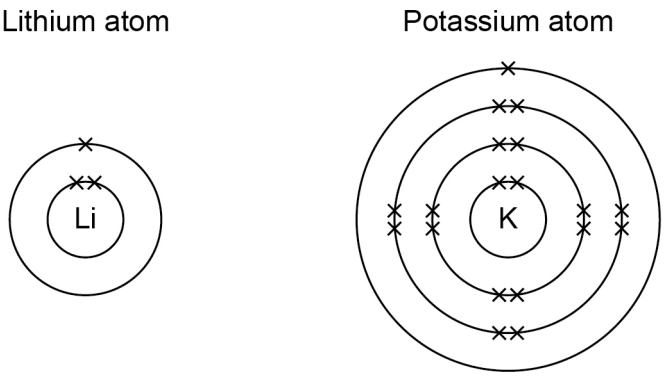
5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 04 · continued

0 5 . 6 Lithium and potassium are in the same group of the periodic table.

Figure 10 represents the electronic structures of a lithium atom and of a potassium atom.

Figure 10



Give **two** reasons why potassium is more reactive than lithium.

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

11

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 05

November 2021 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q4

0 4 Sodium and potassium are Group 1 elements.

0 4 . 1 What is the name of Group 1 elements?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

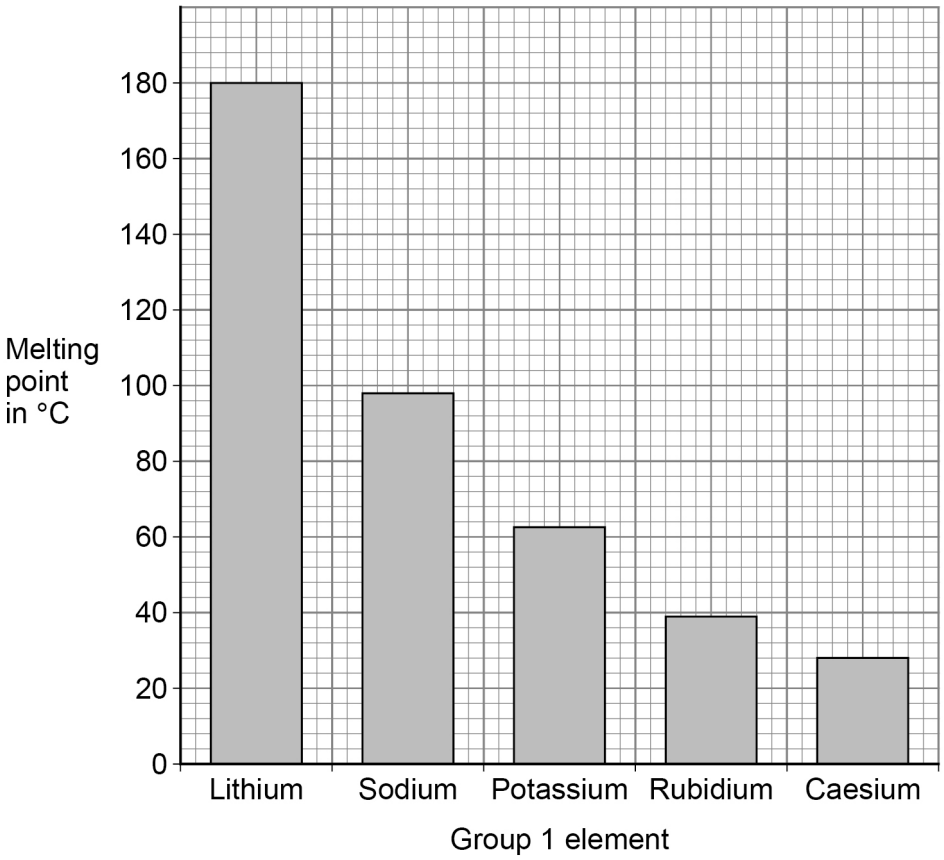
- Alkali metals ☐
- Halogens ☐
- Noble gases ☐

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 05 · continued

0 4 . 2 **Figure 5** represents the melting points of Group 1 elements.

Figure 5



What is the melting point of sodium?

[1 mark]

Melting point of sodium = _____ °C

0 4 . 3 Sodium reacts with water to produce sodium hydroxide and hydrogen.

Balance the equation for the reaction.

[1 mark]

$$____ Na + 2H_2O \rightarrow 2NaOH + H_2$$

0 4 . 4 Calculate the relative formula mass (M_r) of sodium hydroxide (NaOH).

Relative atomic masses (A_r): H = 1 O = 16 Na = 23

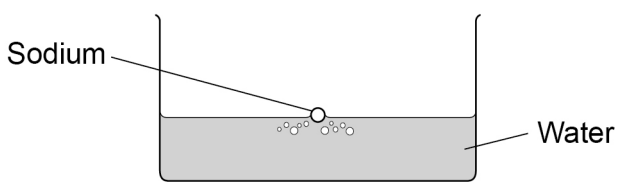
[2 marks]

Relative formula mass (M_r) = _____

0 4 . 5 Sodium and potassium both react with water.

Figure 6 shows sodium reacting with water.

Figure 6



Compare what is seen when sodium reacts with water and when potassium reacts with water.

[4 marks]

9

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 06

November 2021 | 8464/C/2F | Original Q1

0 1 Fresh water contains low levels of dissolved salts.

Water reacts with anhydrous copper sulfate in a reversible reaction.

The word equation for the reaction is:

water + anhydrous copper sulfate ⇌ hydrated copper sulfate

0 1 . 1 How does the equation show that the reaction is reversible?

[1 mark]

_____

_____

0 1 . 2 Complete the sentences.

Choose answers from the box.

[2 marks]

blue	**green**	**orange**	**white**	**yellow**

The colour of anhydrous copper sulfate is _____ .

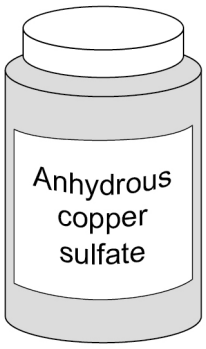
The colour of hydrated copper sulfate is _____ .

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 06 · continued

0 1 . 3 **Figure 1** shows anhydrous copper sulfate in a sealed container.

Figure 1



Suggest **one** reason why anhydrous copper sulfate is kept in a sealed container.

[1 mark]

Question 1 continues on the next page

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 06 · continued

Sodium chloride dissolves in water to form sodium chloride solution.

0 1 . 4 Draw **one** line from each substance to the description of the substance.

[2 marks]

Substance	Description of substance
Sodium chloride solution	Compound
Water	Element
	Hydrocarbon
	Mixture

0 1 . 5 Name the process used to obtain solid sodium chloride from sodium chloride solution.

[1 mark]

_____

Question 06 · continued

0 1 . 6 Two processes used to obtain potable water from fresh water are:

- filtering
- sterilising.

Give **one** reason why each process is used.

[2 marks]

Filtering _____

_____

Sterilising _____

_____

0 1 . 7 Which type of water is the easiest to obtain potable water from?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Ground water ☐

Salt water ☐

Waste water ☐

0 1 . 8 Which of the following is the first stage of waste water treatment?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Aerobic biological treatment of effluent ☐

Anaerobic digestion of sewage sludge ☐

Screening and removal of grit ☐

11

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 07

June 2022 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q1

0 1 This question is about Group 1 elements.

0 1 . 1 What are the Group 1 elements known as?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

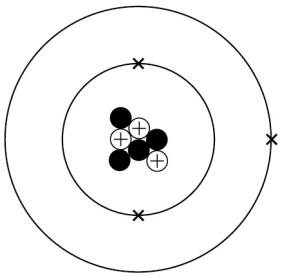
Alkali metals ☐

Halogens ☐

Noble gases ☐

0 1 . 2 **Figure 1** shows a lithium atom.

Figure 1



What is the number of electrons and neutrons in the atom of lithium?

[2 marks]

Number of electrons _____

Number of neutrons _____

0 1 . 3 What is the relative charge on a lithium ion?

[1 mark]

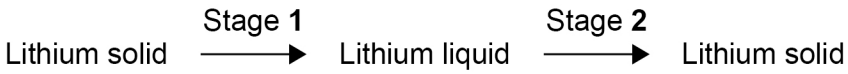
Tick (✓) **one** box.

+1 ☐ 0 ☐ –1 ☐

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 07 · continued

0 1 . 4 Lithium is heated and then cooled in an experiment.



Two physical changes happen in the experiment.

Draw **one** line from each stage to the physical change that happens in that stage.

[2 marks]

Stage	Physical change
Stage **1**	Boiling
	Condensing
	Dissolving
Stage **2**	Freezing
	Melting

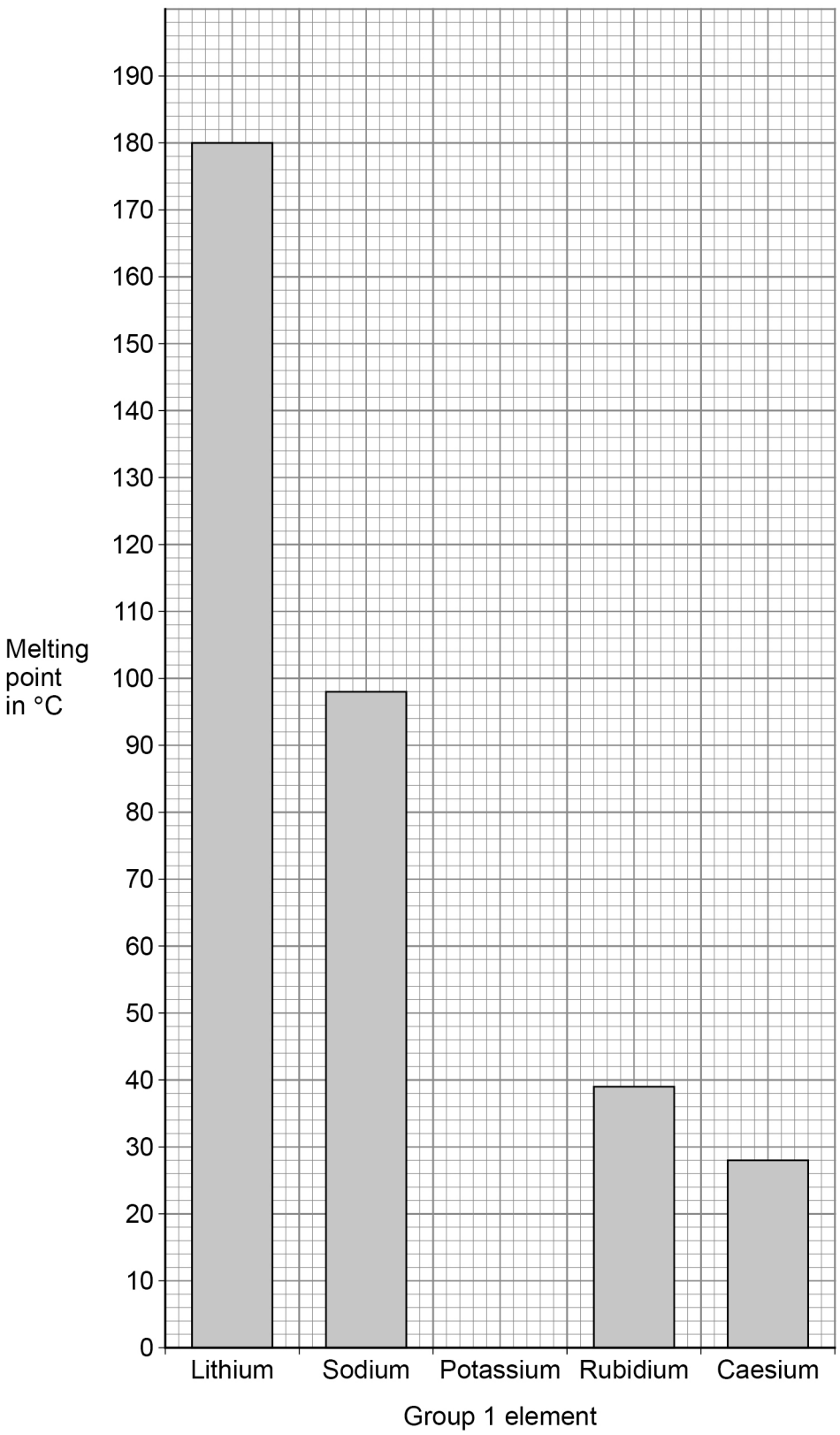
Question 1 continues on the next page

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 07 · continued

Figure 2 represents the melting points of some Group 1 elements.

Figure 2



5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 07 · continued

0 1 . 5 What is the melting point of caesium?

Use **Figure 2**.

[1 mark]

Melting point = _____ °C

0 1 . 6 The melting point of potassium is 63 °C

Draw a bar for the melting point of potassium on **Figure 2**.

[1 mark]

0 1 . 7 Describe the trend of the melting points of the Group 1 elements in **Figure 2**.

[3 marks]

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

0 1 . 8 The boiling point of sodium is 883 °C

What is the state of sodium at 150 °C?

Use **Figure 2**.

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Gas ☐

Liquid ☐

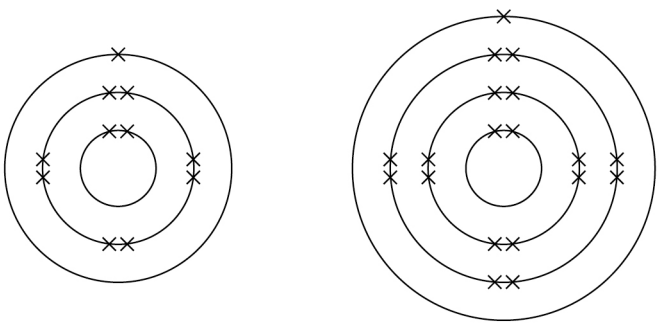
Solid ☐

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 07 · continued

0 1 . 9 **Figure 3** represents the electronic structure of a sodium atom and of a potassium atom.

Figure 3



Sodium atom

Potassium atom

Complete the sentence.

Choose the answer from the box.

[1 mark]

gains an electron	**loses an electron**	**shares an electron**

Potassium is more reactive than sodium because potassium more

easily _____ .

13

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 08

June 2022 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q2

0 2 This question is about hydrogen chloride and sodium hydroxide.

0 2 . 1 A chlorine atom has 7 electrons in the outer shell.

A hydrogen atom has 1 electron in the outer shell.

Figure 4 represents part of a dot and cross diagram for a molecule of hydrogen chloride.

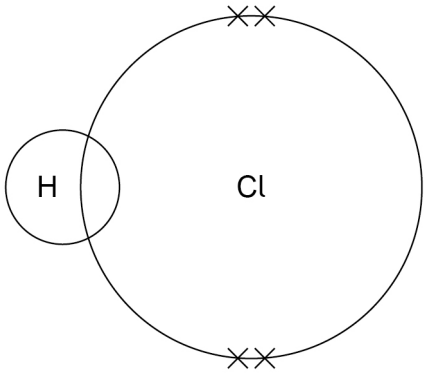
Complete the dot and cross diagram.

Use dots (o) and crosses (x) to represent electrons.

You should show only the electrons in the outer shells.

[2 marks]

Figure 4



0 2 . 2 Hydrogen chloride dissolves in water to produce hydrochloric acid.

Hydrochloric acid reacts with sodium hydroxide solution.

Complete the word equation for the reaction between hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide.

[1 mark]

hydrochloric acid + sodium hydroxide → _____ + water

Question 2 continues on the next page

Question 08 · continued

Solutions of hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide are reacted and the temperature change is recorded.

0 2 . 3 In the reaction, 3.65 g of hydrogen chloride reacts with 4.00 g of sodium hydroxide.

1.80 g of water is produced.

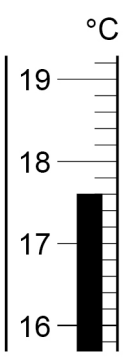
Calculate the mass of the other product.

[1 mark]

Mass = _____ g

0 2 . 4 **Figure 5** shows part of the thermometer used to measure the temperature.

Figure 5



What is the temperature reading on the thermometer?

[1 mark]

Temperature = _____ °C

0 2 . 5 In the reaction, the temperature increases.

What type of reaction is happening when the temperature increases?

[1 mark]

0 2 . 6 Sodium hydroxide is an alkali.

Which **two** ions are in sodium hydroxide solution?

[2 marks]

Tick (✓) **two** boxes.

Cl^- ☐ H^+ ☐ Na^+ ☐ O^{2-} ☐ OH^- ☐

8

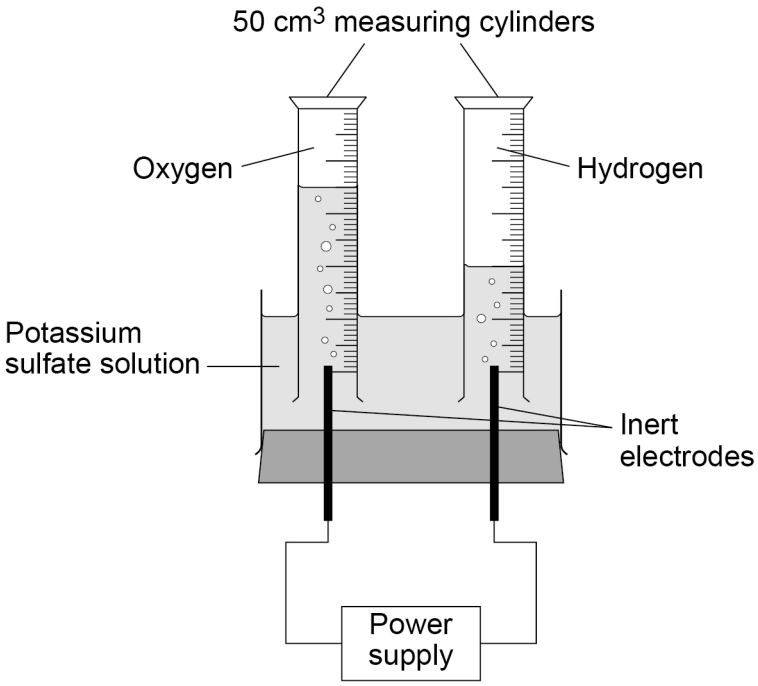
5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 09

0 6 This question is about electrolysis.

Figure 14 shows the apparatus used to investigate the electrolysis of potassium sulfate solution.

Figure 14



0 6 . 1 Potassium sulfate contains K^+ and SO_4^{2-} ions.

What is the formula of potassium sulfate?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

KSO_4 ☐

K_2SO_4 ☐

$K(SO_4)_2$ ☐

$K_2(SO_4)_2$ ☐

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 09 · continued

0 6 . 2 What are the volumes of gases collected in the electrolysis experiment?

Use **Figure 14**.

[1 mark]

Volume of hydrogen = _____ cm^3

Volume of oxygen = _____ cm^3

0 6 . 3 A student made the following hypothesis:

'The volumes of gases collected in this electrolysis experiment are in the same ratio as hydrogen atoms to oxygen atoms in a water molecule.'

Explain how the volumes of gases collected in the experiment in **Figure 14** support the student's hypothesis.

Use your answer to Question **06.2**

[2 marks]

Question 6 continues on the next page

Question 09 · continued

0 6 . 4 The experiment is repeated 4 times.

The volumes of oxygen collected in the 4 experiments are:

6 cm^3 9 cm^3 10 cm^3 11 cm^3

The mean volume of oxygen collected in the 4 experiments is 9 cm^3

The measure of uncertainty is the range of a set of measurements about the mean.

What is the measure of uncertainty in the 4 experiments?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

9 ± 1 cm^3 ☐

9 ± 2 cm^3 ☐

9 ± 3 cm^3 ☐

0 6 . 5 The potassium sulfate solution has 0.86 g of potassium sulfate dissolved in 25 cm^3 of water.

Calculate the mass of potassium sulfate needed to make 1.0 dm^3 of solution.

[3 marks]

Mass = _____ g

8

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 10

June 2023 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q3

0 3 Structure and bonding is used to explain properties of compounds.

Metal atoms react with non-metal atoms to form ions.

0 3 . 1 Which group of elements does **not** form ions?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Alkali metals ☐

Halogens ☐

Noble gases ☐

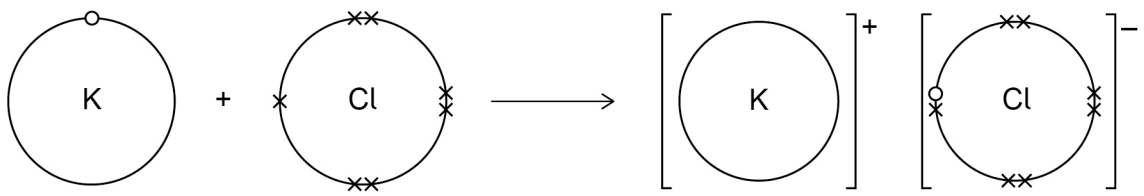
Question 3 continues on the next page

0 3 . 2 Potassium reacts with chlorine to produce potassium chloride (KCl).

Figure 6 shows what happens to the electrons in the outer shells when a potassium atom reacts with a chlorine atom.

The dots (o) and crosses (×) represent electrons.

Figure 6



Describe what happens when a potassium atom reacts with a chlorine atom to produce potassium chloride.

Answer in terms of electrons.

[4 marks]

5.1.2.5 Group 1

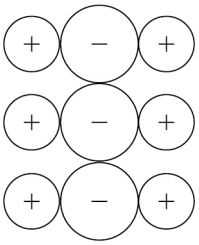
Question 10 · continued

0 3 . 3 In solid ionic compounds, oppositely charged ions attract to form a giant structure.

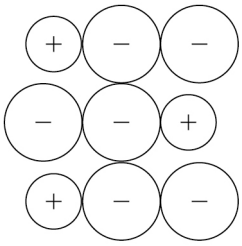
Which structure represents the arrangement of ions in solid potassium chloride?

[1 mark]

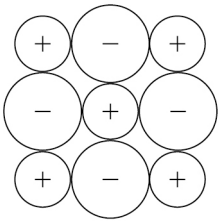
Tick (✓) **one** box.



☐



☐



☐

Question 3 continues on the next page

Non-metal atoms share electrons to form covalent bonds.

0 3 . 4 Water (H_2O) is a covalent molecule.

Table 2 shows the number of electrons in the outer shells of hydrogen atoms and of oxygen atoms.

Table 2

Element	Number of electrons in the outer shell of an atom
Hydrogen	1
Oxygen	6

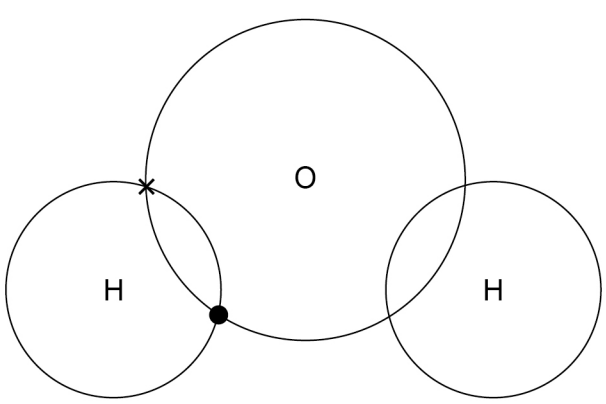
Figure 7 shows part of a dot and cross diagram for a molecule of water.

Complete the dot and cross diagram.

You should only show electrons in the outer shells.

[2 marks]

Figure 7

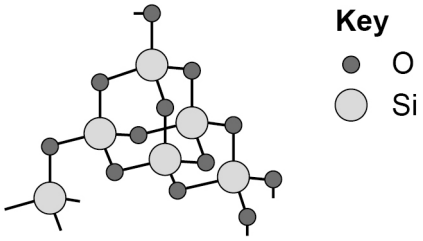


Question 10 · continued

0 3 . 5 Silica has a giant covalent structure.

Figure 8 represents the structure of silica.

Figure 8



Determine the ratio of silicon (Si) atoms to oxygen (O) atoms in silica.

Use **Figure 8**.

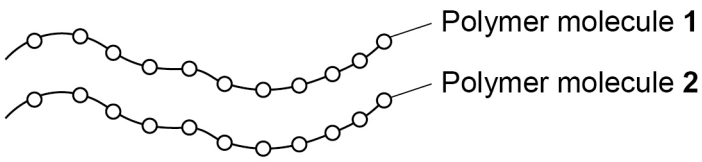
[1 mark]

_____ Si : _____ O

0 3 . 6 Polymers have very large molecules.

Figure 9 represents part of the structure of a polymer.

Figure 9



What holds polymer molecule **1** and polymer molecule **2** together in a polymer?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Covalent bonds ☐

Electrostatic attraction between ions ☐

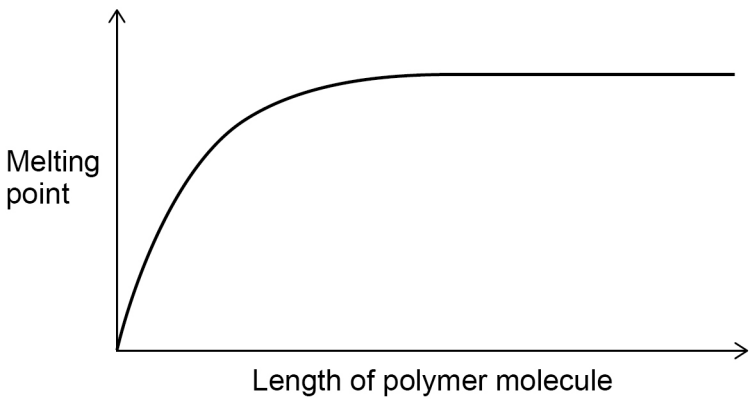
Weak intermolecular forces ☐

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 10 · continued

0 3 . 7 **Figure 10** shows the melting point of a polymer as the length of the polymer molecule increases.

Figure 10



Describe the trend shown in **Figure 10**.

[3 marks]

13

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 11

June 2024 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q1

0 1 Potassium is in Group 1 of the periodic table.

0 1 . 1 What name is given to Group 1 elements?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Alkali metals ☐

Halogens ☐

Noble gases ☐

0 1 . 2 A potassium atom is very small.

What is the radius of a potassium atom?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

0.2 cm ☐

0.2 mm ☐

0.2 nm ☐

0 1 . 3 What name is given to the number of protons in an atom?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Atomic number ☐

Group number ☐

Mass number ☐

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 11 · continued

0 1 . 4 **Table 1** shows the name and the relative charge of the particles in a potassium atom.

Table 1

Name of particle	Relative charge
Proton	
	0
Electron	–1

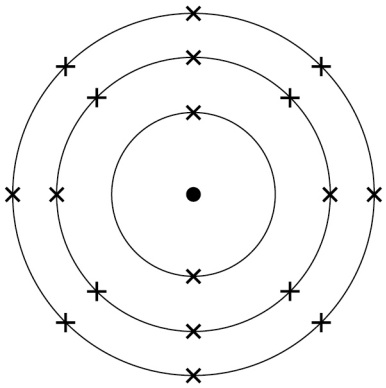
Complete **Table 1**.

[2 marks]

0 1 . 5 The electronic structure of a potassium atom is 2,8,8,1

Figure 1 represents the electronic structure of a potassium **ion**.

Figure 1



What is the charge on a potassium **ion**?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

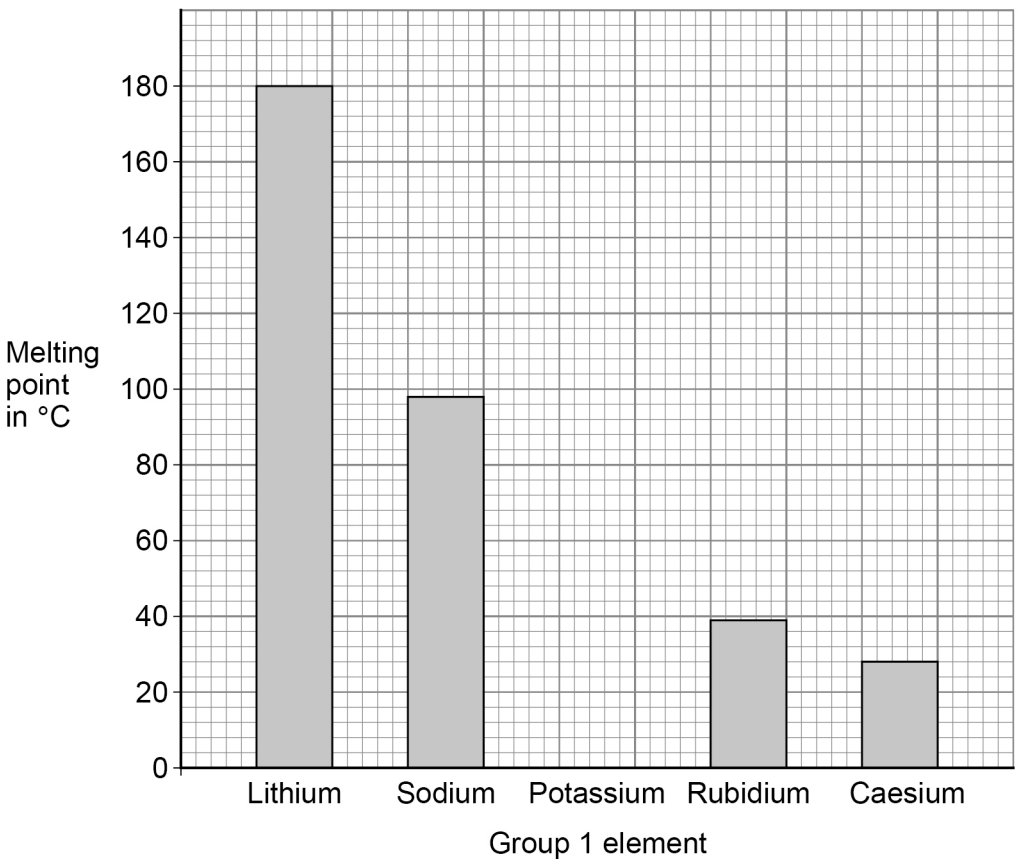
–1 ☐ 0 ☐ +1 ☐

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 11 · continued

0 1 . 6 **Figure 2** shows the melting points of some Group 1 elements.

Figure 2



Predict the melting point of potassium.

[1 mark]

Melting point = _____ °C

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 11 · continued

0 1 . 7 Potassium has two isotopes.

Table 2 shows the percentage (%) abundance of the two isotopes.

Table 2

Isotope	Percentage (%) abundance
$^{39}_{19}K$	93
$^{41}_{19}K$	7

How is the relative atomic mass (A_r) of potassium calculated?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

$A_r = \dfrac{(39 \times 7) + (41 \times 93)}{100}$ ☐

$A_r = \dfrac{(39 \times 93) + (41 \times 7)}{100}$ ☐

$A_r = \dfrac{(39 \times 41) + (93 \times 7)}{100}$ ☐

8

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 12

June 2025 | 8464/C/1F | Original Q2

0 2 Lithium, carbon, nitrogen, fluorine and neon are elements in the same row of the periodic table.

0 2 . 1 What is the chemical symbol of lithium?

Use the periodic table.

[1 mark]

_____

0 2 . 2 Lithium has metallic bonding.

Which electrons are involved in metallic bonding?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Delocalised electrons from the inner shell ☐
- Delocalised electrons from the outer shell ☐
- Fixed electrons in the inner shell ☐
- Fixed electrons in the outer shell ☐

Question 2 continues on the next page

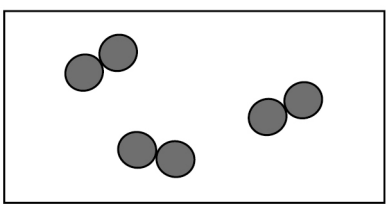
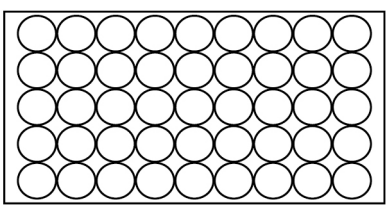
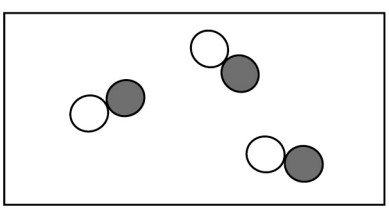
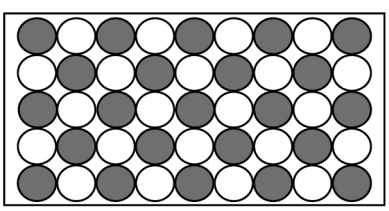
5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 12 · continued

0 2 . 3 Lithium reacts with fluorine to produce lithium fluoride.

Draw **one** line from each substance to the particle diagram that represents the substance.

[3 marks]

Substance	Particle diagram
Lithium solid	
Fluorine gas	
Lithium fluoride solid	
	

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 12 · continued

0 2 . 4 **Table 2** shows the electrical conductivity of three substances.

Table 2

Substance	Electrical conductivity when solid	Electrical conductivity when liquid
C	Poor	Poor
D	Poor	Good
E	Good	Good

Lithium fluoride is an ionic compound.

Which substance is lithium fluoride?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

C ☐ **D** ☐ **E** ☐

Question 2 continues on the next page

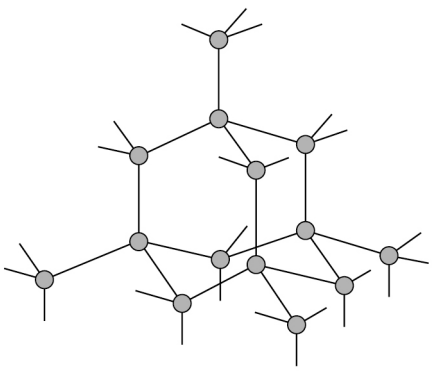
5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 12 · continued

0 2 . 5 Carbon can exist in different forms.

Figure 4 represents one form of carbon.

Figure 4



What is the name of the form of carbon in **Figure 4**?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Buckminsterfullerene ☐

Diamond ☐

Graphite ☐

0 2 . 6 Carbon and fluorine form a compound with the formula CF_4

Calculate the relative formula mass (M_r) of CF_4

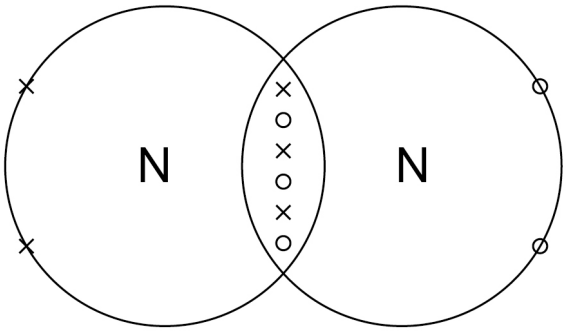
Relative atomic masses (A_r): C = 12 F = 19

[2 marks]

Relative formula mass (M_r) = _____

0 2 . 7 **Figure 5** represents a molecule of nitrogen.

Figure 5



What is the total number of shared electrons in the covalent bond shown in **Figure 5**?

[1 mark]

_____

0 2 . 8 Lithium and nitrogen form a compound with the formula Li_3N

Complete the sentence.

Choose the answer from the box.

[1 mark]

nitrate	**nitride**	**nitrogen**

The name of the compound with the formula Li_3N is lithium _____.

Question 2 continues on the next page

5.1.2.5 Group 1

Question 12 · continued

0 2 . 9 Neon does **not** react with other elements to form compounds.

Why is neon unreactive?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Neon has a stable arrangement of electrons. ☐

Neon is a gas at room temperature. ☐

Neon is a non-metallic element. ☐

12