AQA GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy | 8464

SPECIFICATION POINT 5.9.1.4

How carbon dioxide decreased

Past-paper questions

Tier	**Foundation**
Question groups	**7**
Available paper years	**2018–2024**

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.

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 01

June 2018 | 8464/C/2F | Original Q1

0 1 **Figure 1** represents an atom of sulfur.

Figure 1

$^{32}_{16}S$

0 1 . 1 Complete **Table 1**

[1 mark]

Table 1

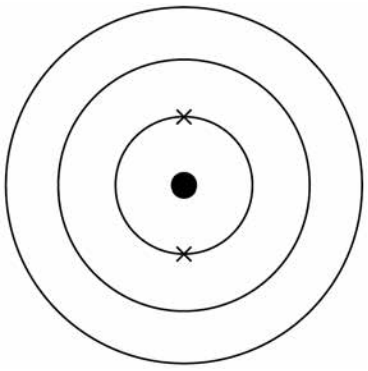
Particle	Number of particles in a sulfur atom
Electron	16
Neutron	
Proton	16

0 1 . 2 Sulfur is in Group 6 of the periodic table.

Complete the electronic structure of the sulfur atom represented in **Figure 2**

[1 mark]

Figure 2



5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 01 · continued

0 1 . 3 Sulfur reacts with oxygen to produce sulfur dioxide.

Complete the word equation for this reaction.

[1 mark]

sulfur + _____

0 1 . 4 What effect is caused by sulfur dioxide?

[1 mark]

Tick **one** box.

- Acid rain ☐
- Global dimming ☐
- Global warming ☐
- Sea levels rising ☐

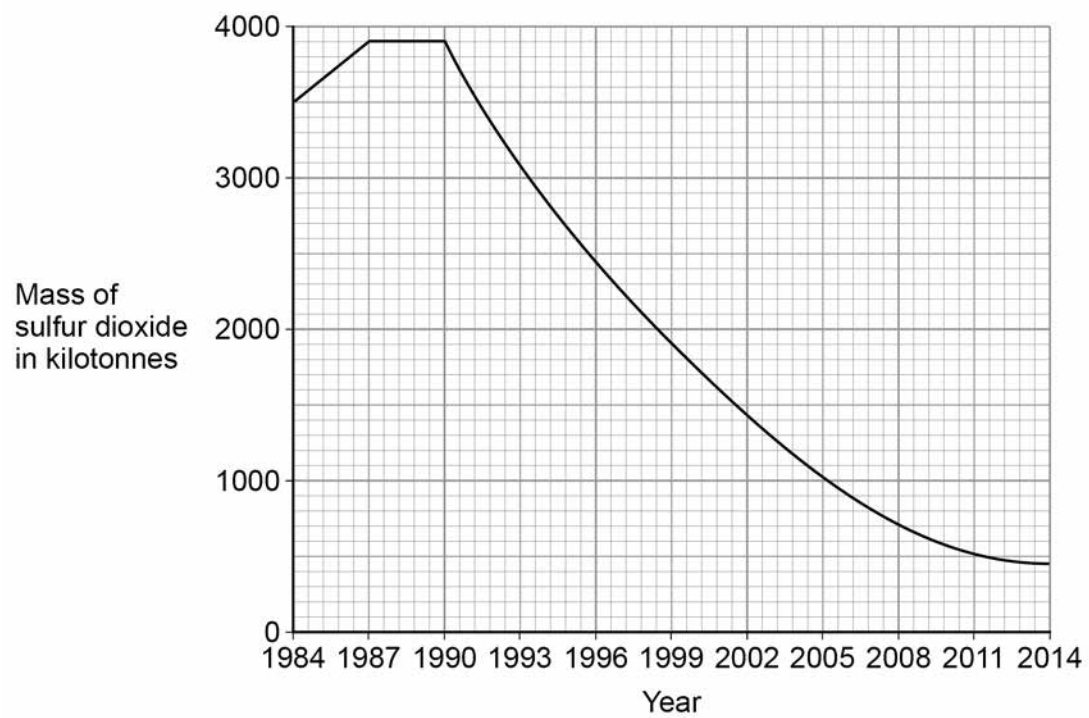
Question 1 continues on the next page

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 01 · continued

0 1 . 5 **Figure 3** shows the mass of sulfur dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere between 1984 and 2014

Figure 3



A student said:

'the mass of sulfur dioxide in the atmosphere decreased every year between 1984 and 2014'

Is the student correct?

Use data from **Figure 3** to justify your answer.

[3 marks]

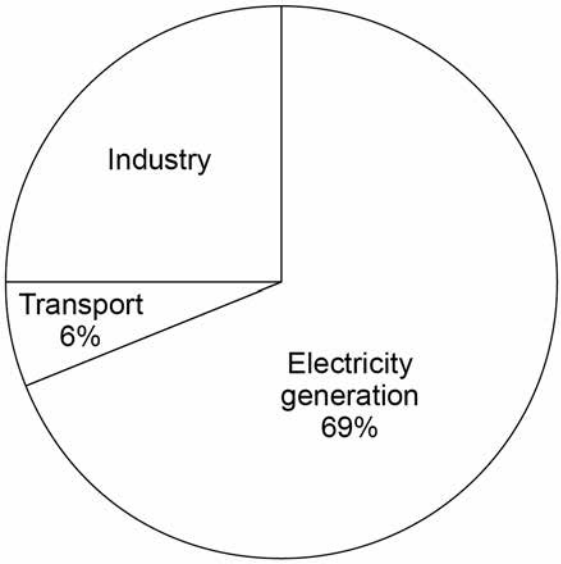
5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 01 · continued

June 2018 | 8464/C/2F | Original Q1

0 1 . 6 **Figure 4** shows the percentage of sulfur dioxide released by human activities.

Figure 4



Calculate the percentage of sulfur dioxide released by industry.

[2 marks]

Percentage = _____ %

9

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 02

June 2018 | 8464/C/2F | Original Q7

0 7 This question is about the Earth's atmosphere.

0 7 . 1 Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas.

What is another greenhouse gas?

[1 mark]

Tick **one** box.

- Argon ☐
- Methane ☐
- Nitrogen ☐
- Oxygen ☐

0 7 . 2 Greenhouse gases cause global climate change.

Give **two** effects of global climate change.

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

0 7 . 3 4.1 kg of a plastic, used to make plastic bottles, has a carbon footprint of 6.0 kg of carbon dioxide.

Calculate the carbon footprint of **one** plastic bottle of mass 23.5 g

[2 marks]

_____

_____

_____

_____

Carbon footprint = _____ kg of carbon dioxide

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 02 · continued

0 7 . 4 Give **one** way that carbon dioxide emissions can be reduced when a plastic bottle is manufactured.

[1 mark]

0 7 . 5 Explain how the percentages of nitrogen, oxygen and carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere today have changed from the Earth's early atmosphere.

[6 marks]

12

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 03

June 2019 | 8464/C/2F | Original Q1

0 1 . 1 This question is about gases.

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

[3 marks]

Substance	Description of substance
	Compound
Air	Element
Carbon dioxide	Hydrocarbon
Oxygen	Metal
	Mixture

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 03 · continued

0 1 . 2 What is used to test for each of the gases?

Draw **one** line from each gas to the test for the gas.

[2 marks]

Gas	Test
	A glowing splint
Carbon dioxide	A lighted splint
	Limewater
Oxygen	
	Litmus paper

0 1 . 3 Give **two** reasons why the percentage of carbon dioxide in the air has decreased in the last 2.7 billion years.

[2 marks]

Tick (✓) **two** boxes.

- Combustion ☐
- Dissolved in oceans ☐
- Intense volcanic activity ☐
- Photosynthesis ☐
- Respiration ☐

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 03 · continued

Oxygen reacts with sulfur dioxide.

The reaction is reversible.

0 1 . 4 What is the symbol for a reversible reaction?

[1 mark]

_____

0 1 . 5 Complete the sentence.

[1 mark]

In a reversible reaction the forward reaction is exothermic, so the

reverse reaction is _____ .

0 1 . 6 A reversible reaction happens in apparatus which stops the escape of reactants and products.

Complete the sentence.

[1 mark]

Equilibrium is reached when the forward and reverse reactions happen at

exactly the same _____ .

10

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

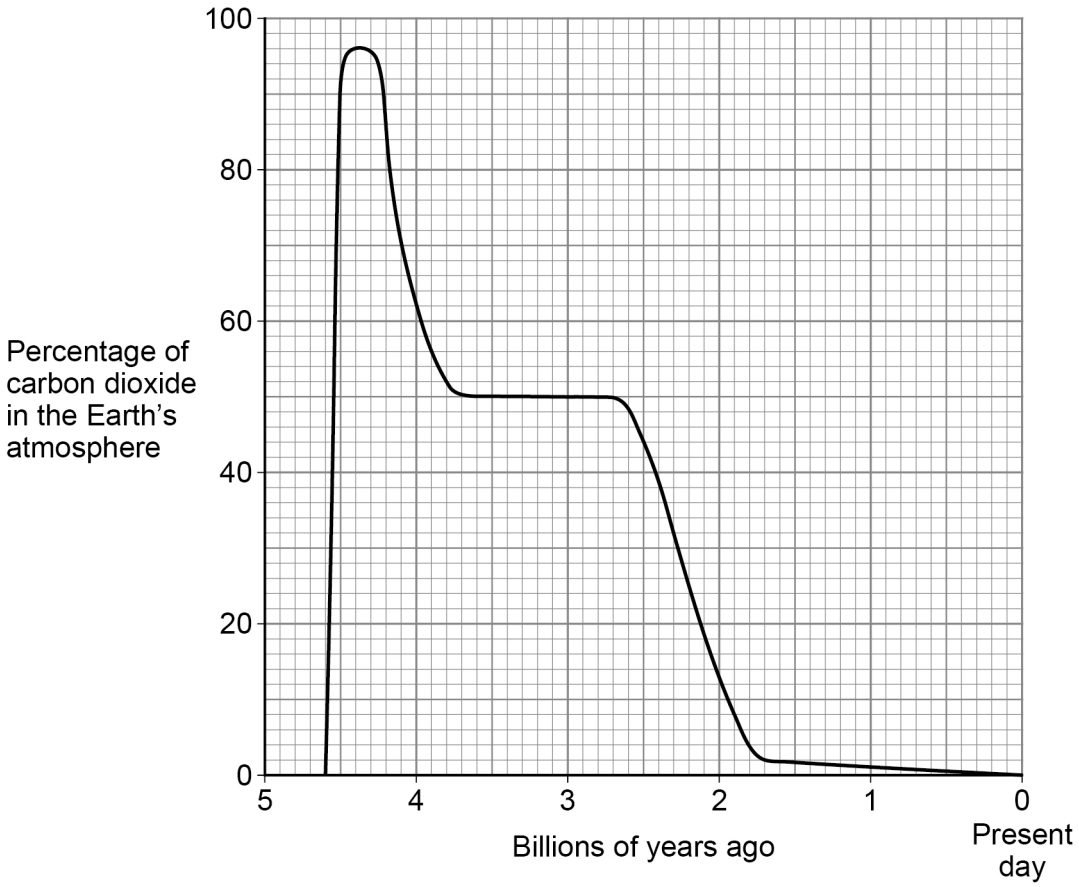
Question 04

November 2020 | 8464/C/2F | Original Q2

0 2 This question is about carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere.

Figure 2 shows how the percentage of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere has changed over 4.6 billion years.

Figure 2



0 2 . 1 What was the highest percentage of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere?

Use **Figure 2**.

[1 mark]

Highest percentage = _____ %

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

0 2 . 2 The percentage of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has decreased since Earth's early atmosphere.

Which **two** processes have decreased the percentage of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere?

[2 marks]

Tick (✓) **two** boxes.

- Combustion of fuels ☐
- Formation of sedimentary rocks ☐
- Photosynthesis ☐
- Volcanic activity ☐

0 2 . 3 The total amount of carbon dioxide emitted over the life cycle of a product can be measured.

What name is given to the total amount of carbon dioxide emitted during the life cycle of a product?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Carbon footprint ☐
- Global dimming ☐
- Greenhouse effect ☐

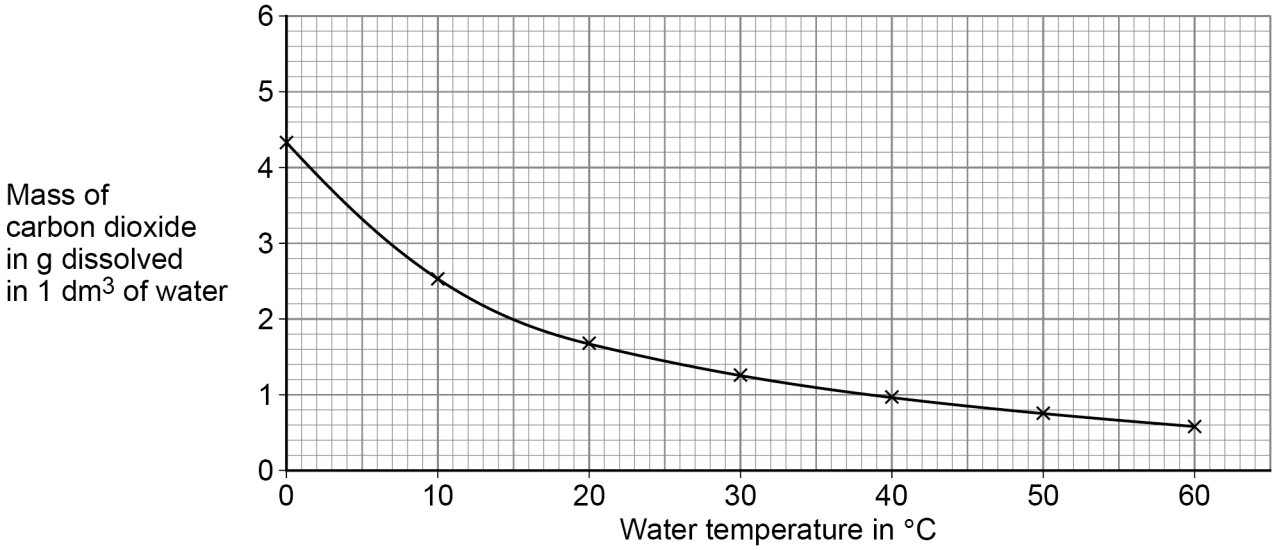
5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 04 · continued

Carbon dioxide dissolves in water.

Figure 3 shows the mass of carbon dioxide dissolved in water at different temperatures.

Figure 3



0 2 . 4 Complete **Table 1**.

Use **Figure 3**.

[2 marks]

Table 1

Water temperature in °C	Mass of carbon dioxide in g dissolved in 1 dm^3 of water
5	
15	

0 2 . 5 Calculate the difference in the mass of carbon dioxide dissolved in 1 dm^3 of water at 5 °C and at 15 °C

Use **Table 1**.

[1 mark]

Mass = _____ g

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 04 · continued

0 2 . 6 Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas.

The greenhouse effect happens in four stages.

The four stages are:

Stage **A** Carbon dioxide stops longer wavelength radiation escaping

Stage **B** Radiation is absorbed by the Earth

Stage **C** Longer wavelength radiation is emitted

Stage **D** Shorter wavelength radiation enters the atmosphere.

What is the correct order of stages **A**, **B**, **C** and **D**?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

C, **A**, **B**, **D** ☐

C, **D**, **B**, **A** ☐

D, **B**, **C**, **A** ☐

D, **C**, **B**, **A** ☐

0 2 . 7 Changes in the percentage of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere cause climate change.

Give **two** effects of climate change.

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

10

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 05

June 2022 | 8464/C/2F | Original Q1

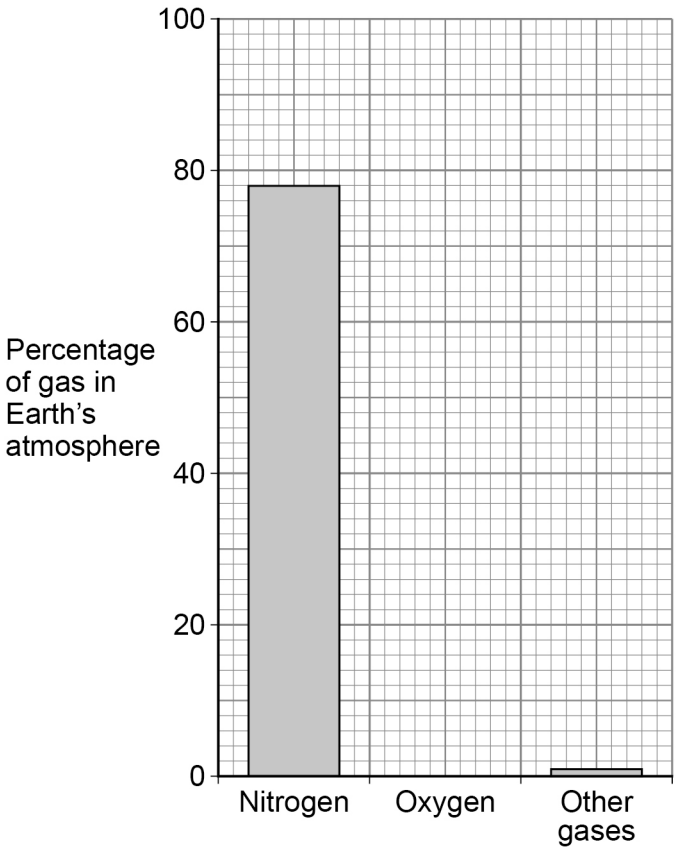
0 1 This question is about the Earth's atmosphere.

0 1 . 1 The Earth's atmosphere contains 21% oxygen.

Draw the bar for oxygen on **Figure 1**.

[1 mark]

Figure 1



0 1 . 2 What is used to test for oxygen gas?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- A burning splint ☐
- A glowing splint ☐
- Damp litmus paper ☐
- Limewater ☐

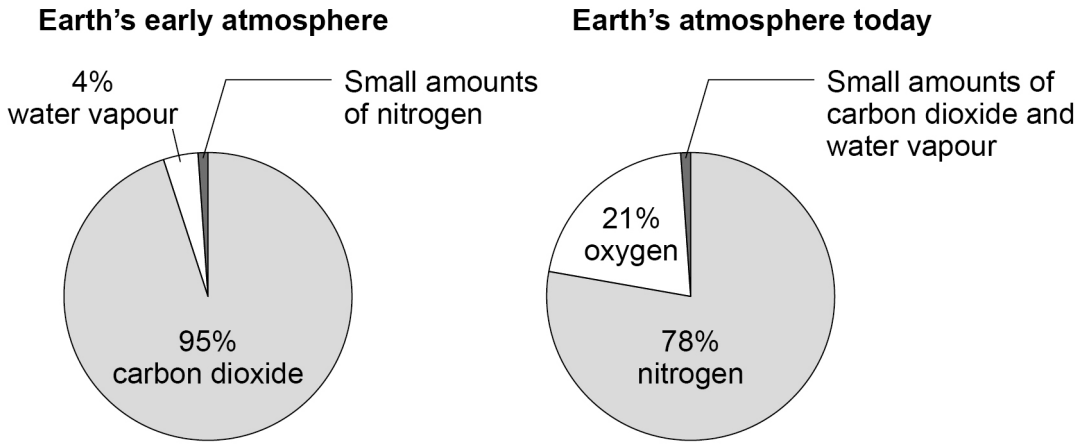
5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 05 · continued

The Earth's early atmosphere was very different from the Earth's atmosphere today.

Figure 2 shows the composition of the Earth's early atmosphere and of the Earth's atmosphere today.

Figure 2



0 1 . 3 The percentages of nitrogen and oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere today are different from the Earth's early atmosphere.

Complete the sentences.

Choose answers from the box.

Use **Figure 2**.

Each answer can be used once, more than once or not at all.

[2 marks]

decreased	**increased**	**stayed the same**

Since the Earth's early atmosphere, the percentage of nitrogen in the Earth's atmosphere has _____ .

Since the Earth's early atmosphere, the percentage of oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere has _____ .

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

0 1 . 4 The Earth's atmosphere today contains a small amount of carbon dioxide.

Why has the percentage of carbon dioxide decreased since the Earth's early atmosphere?

[2 marks]

Tick (✓) **two** boxes.

- Dissolved in oceans ☐
- Formation of sedimentary rocks ☐
- Industrialisation ☐
- Respiration ☐
- Volcanic activity ☐

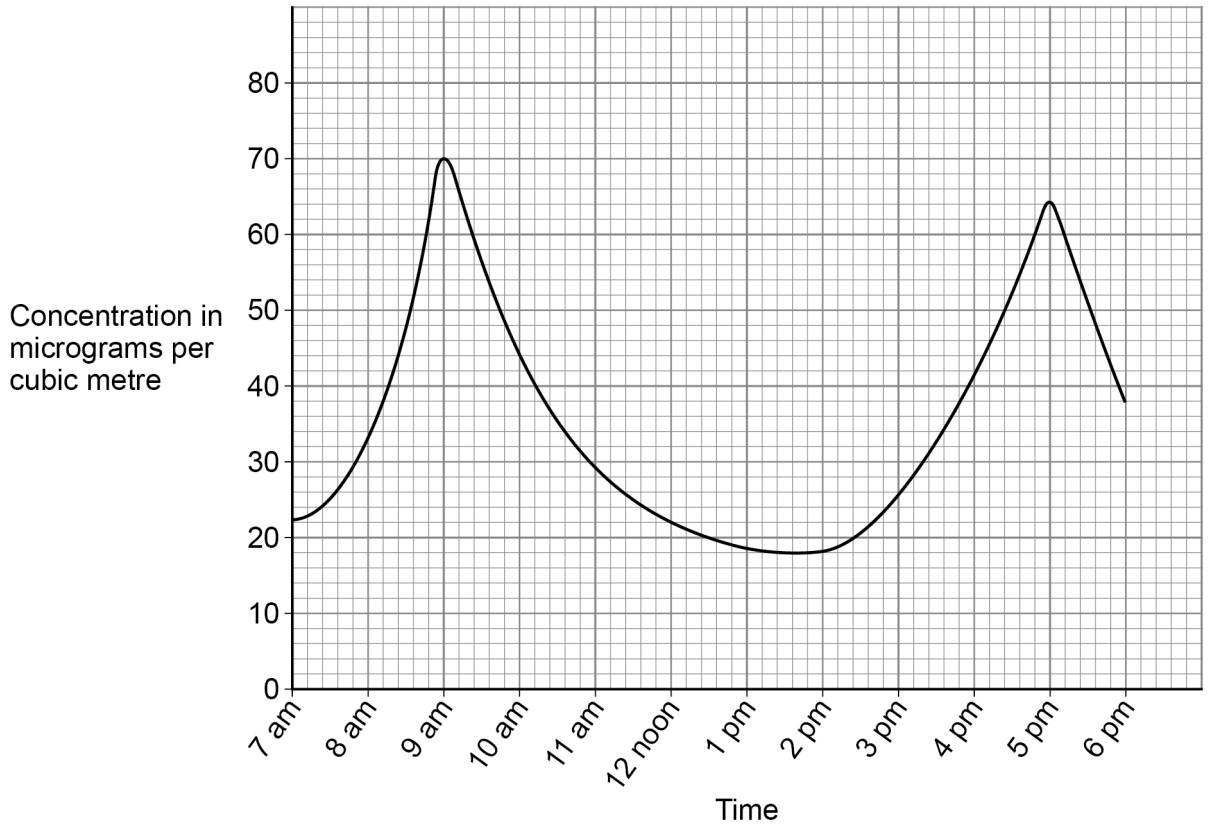
5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 05 · continued

Oxides of nitrogen are produced when nitrogen reacts with oxygen in car engines.

Figure 3 shows the concentration of oxides of nitrogen in the atmosphere during one day in a city.

Figure 3



0 1 . 5 Which **two times** have the highest concentrations of oxides of nitrogen in the atmosphere?

[2 marks]

1 _____

2 _____

0 1 . 6 Suggest why there are the highest concentrations of oxides of nitrogen at these times.

[1 mark]

_____

_____

9

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 06

0 2 The Earth's atmosphere is always changing.

0 2 . 1 Gases in the Earth's early atmosphere caused changes on the Earth.

Draw **one** line from each change to the gas that caused the change.

[2 marks]

Change	Gas that caused the change
	Ammonia
Oceans formed	Carbon dioxide
	Nitrogen
Sedimentary rocks formed	
	Oxygen
	Water vapour

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Table 1 shows the percentage of some gases in the atmospheres of Earth and Mars today.

Table 1

Gas	Percentage of gas in atmosphere (%)	
	Earth	Mars
Argon	0.90	1.9
Carbon dioxide	0.04	95
Nitrogen	78	2.6
Oxygen	21	0.20

0 2 . 2 Which gas has the highest percentage in the Earth's atmosphere?

[1 mark]

0 2 . 3 Calculate how many times more carbon dioxide there is in the atmosphere of Mars than in the atmosphere of Earth.

Use **Table 1**.

Give your answer in standard form.

[3 marks]

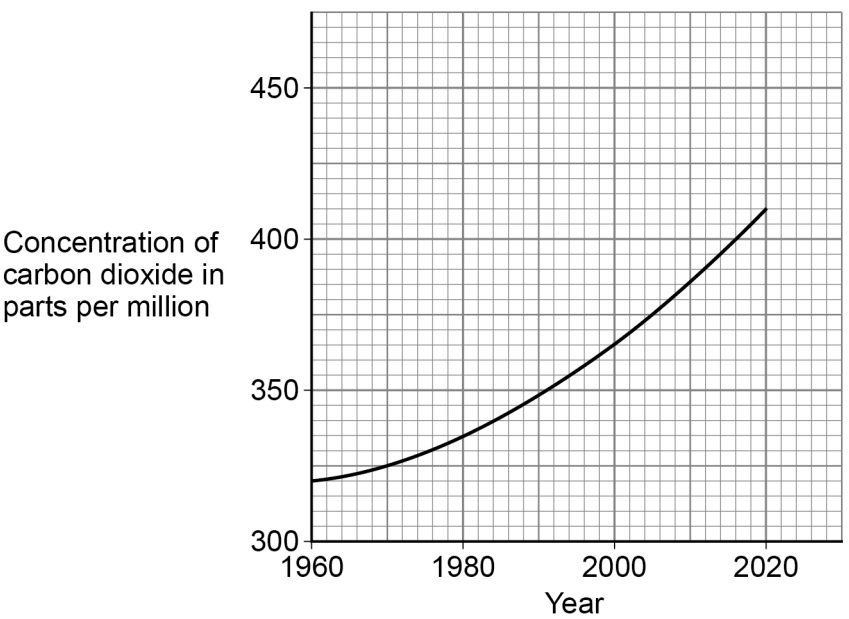
Number of times more carbon dioxide (in standard form) = _____

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas.

0 2 . 4 **Figure 1** shows the concentration of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere from 1960 to 2020.

Figure 1



How has the concentration of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere changed from 1960 to 2020?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Decreased ☐
- Stayed the same ☐
- Increased ☐

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 06 · continued

0 2 . 5 Cars emit carbon dioxide.

A car emits 17.2 kg of carbon dioxide on a journey.

There are four people in the car.

Calculate the mass of carbon dioxide emitted per person.

[2 marks]

Mass of carbon dioxide = _____ kg

0 2 . 6 Planting trees helps to reduce climate change, because trees use carbon dioxide from the Earth's atmosphere.

Name the process in trees which uses carbon dioxide.

[1 mark]

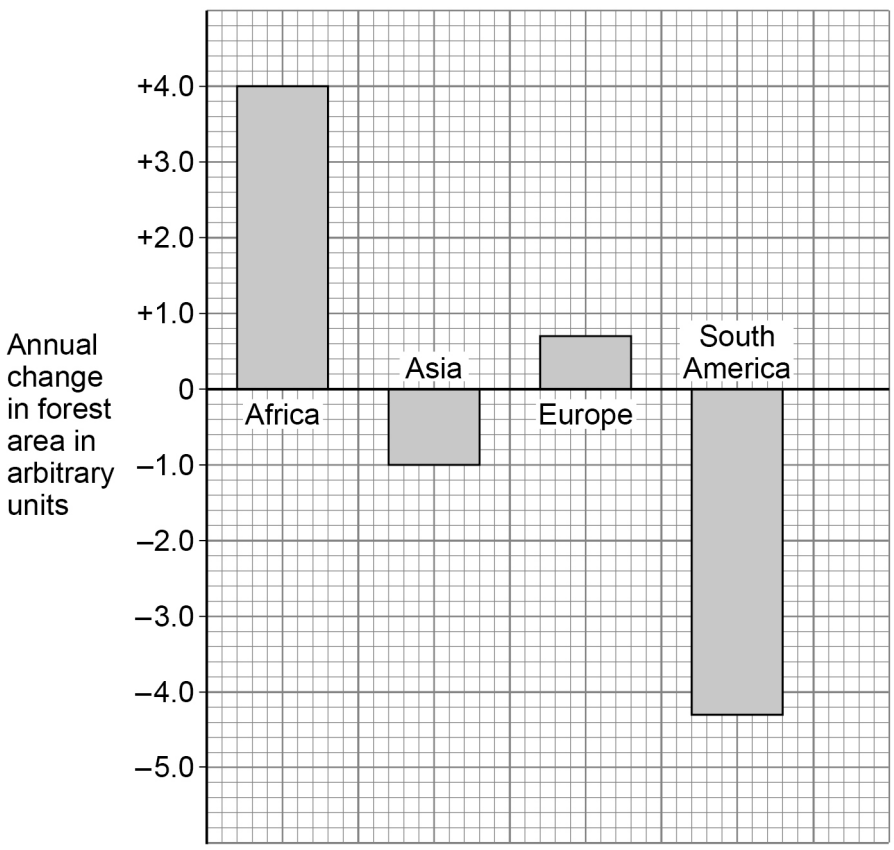
Question 2 continues on the next page

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 06 · continued

0 2 . 7 **Figure 2** shows the annual change in forest area in four different parts of the world.

Figure 2



Give **two** conclusions about the annual change in forest area.

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

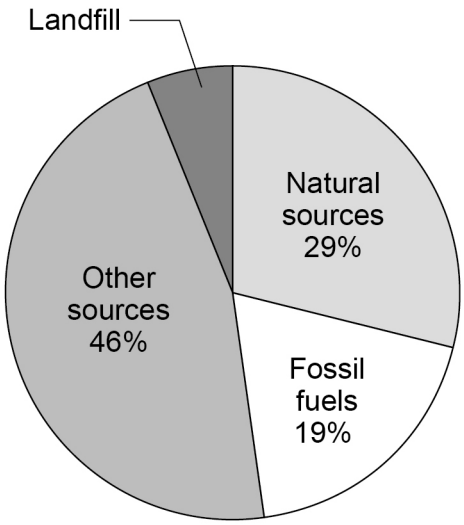
5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 06 · continued

0 2 . 8 Methane is a greenhouse gas.

Figure 3 shows sources of methane emissions.

Figure 3



Determine the percentage (%) of methane emissions from landfill.

[1 mark]

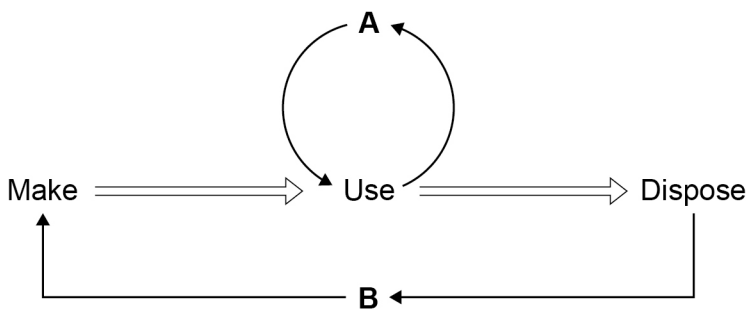
Percentage = _____ %

Question 2 continues on the next page

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

0 2 . 9 **Figure 4** shows two ways (**A** and **B**) of preventing used items going to landfill.

Figure 4



Name **A** and **B**.

Choose answers from the box.

[2 marks]

recycle	**reduce**	**release**	**reuse**	**reverse**

A _____

B _____

15

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 07

June 2024 | 8464/C/2F | Original Q1

0 1 The Earth's atmosphere has changed during the last 4.6 billion years.

0 1 . 1 What is the approximate percentage of nitrogen and of oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere today?

Draw **one** line from each gas to the percentage of that gas.

[2 marks]

Gas	Percentage (%) of gas
Nitrogen	20
	40
Oxygen	60
	80

0 1 . 2 The approximate percentage of carbon dioxide in the Earth's early atmosphere was 95%.

Which are **two** reasons why the percentage of carbon dioxide has **decreased** since the Earth's early atmosphere?

[2 marks]

Tick (✓) **two** boxes.

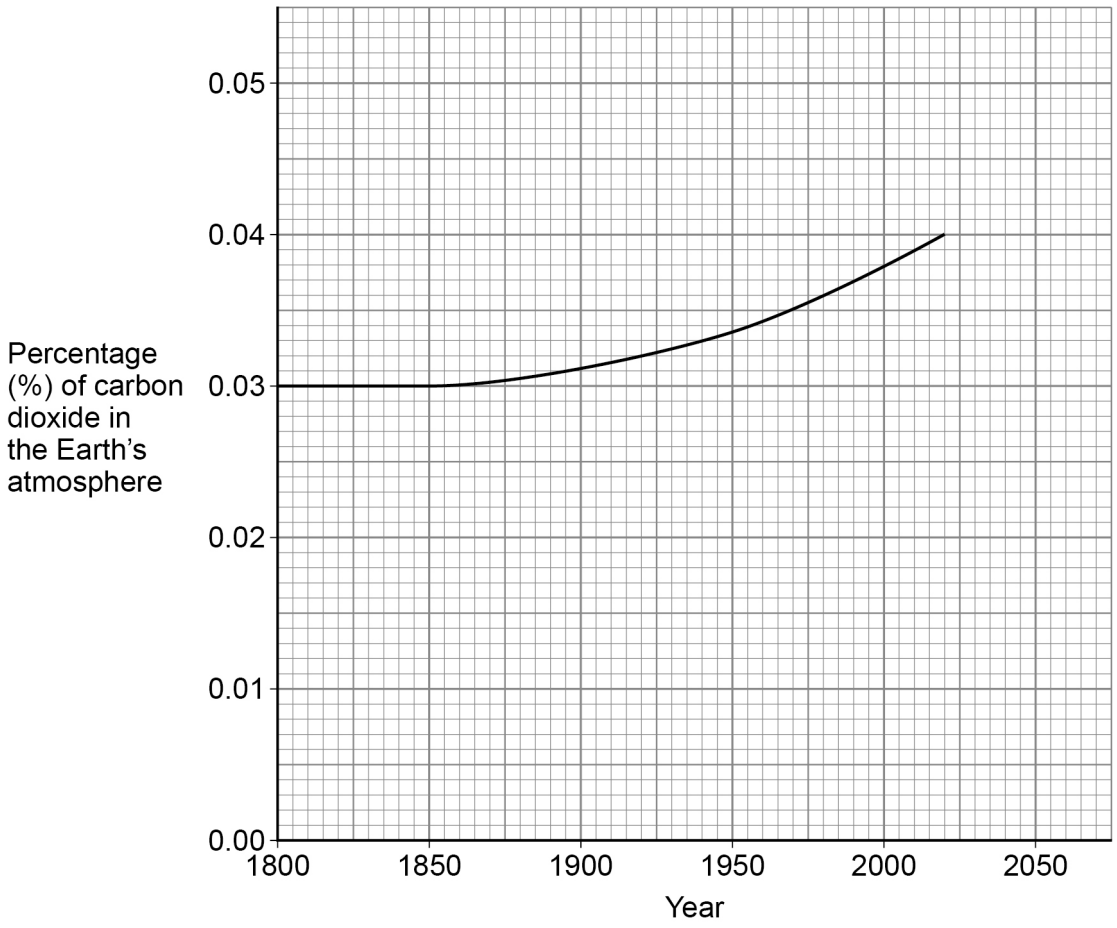
- Combustion of fuels ☐
- Deforestation ☐
- Dissolving in oceans ☐
- Photosynthesis ☐
- Respiration ☐

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 07 · continued

0 1 . 3 **Figure 1** shows the change in the percentage of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere from 1800 to 2020.

Figure 1



Describe the trend in the percentage of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere from 1800 to 2020.

Use data from **Figure 1**.

[3 marks]

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas.

0 1 . 4 Which of the following is also a greenhouse gas?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Argon ☐
- Methane ☐
- Nitrogen ☐
- Oxygen ☐

0 1 . 5 Which of the following is an environmental problem caused by greenhouse gases?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Acid rain ☐
- Climate change ☐
- Global dimming ☐

5.9.1.4 How carbon dioxide decreased

Question 07 · continued

0 1 . 6 Calculate the relative formula mass (M_r) of carbon dioxide (CO_2).

Relative atomic masses (A_r): C = 12 O = 16

[2 marks]

Relative formula mass of carbon dioxide = _____

11

Turn over for the next question