AQA GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy | 8464

SPECIFICATION POINT 5.1.1.7

Electronic structure

Past-paper questions

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**6**
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.

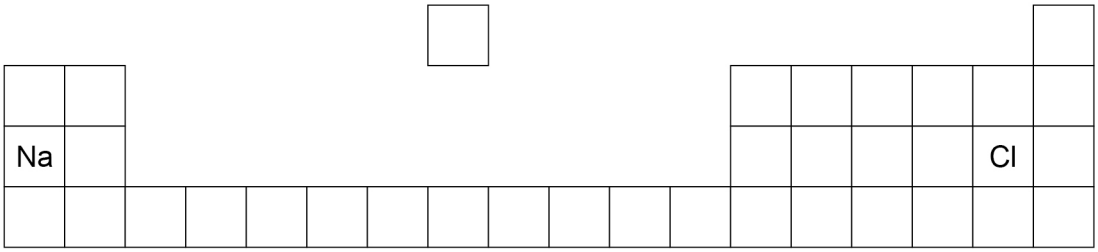
5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 01

0 2 This question is about sodium and chlorine.

Figure 2 shows the positions of sodium and chlorine in the periodic table.

Figure 2



0 2 . 1 State **one** difference and **one** similarity in the electronic structure of sodium and of chlorine.

[2 marks]

Difference _____

_____

Similarity _____

_____

0 2 . 2 Sodium atoms react with chlorine atoms to produce sodium chloride (NaCl).

Describe what happens when a sodium atom reacts with a chlorine atom.

Write about electron transfer in your answer.

[4 marks]

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

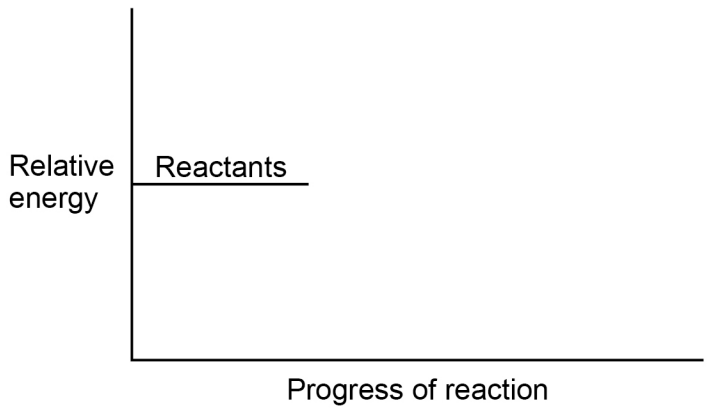
Question 01 · continued

0 2 . 3 The reaction between sodium and chlorine is an exothermic reaction.

Complete the reaction profile for the reaction between sodium and chlorine.

[2 marks]

Figure 3



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5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 02

0 4 This question is about the halogens.

0 4 . 1 Write the state symbol for chlorine at room temperature.

[1 mark]

Cl_2 (_____)

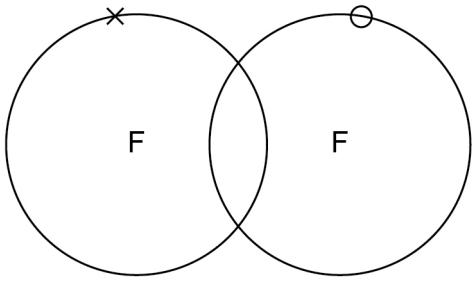
0 4 . 2 **Figure 4** represents one molecule of fluorine.

Complete the dot and cross diagram on **Figure 4**

You should show only the electrons in the outer shells.

[2 marks]

Figure 4



0 4 . 3 A fluorine atom can be represented as $^{19}_{9}F$

What is the total number of electrons in a fluorine molecule (F_2)?

[1 mark]

Tick **one** box.

9 ☐ 14 ☐ 18 ☐ 38 ☐

0 4 . 4 Aluminium reacts with bromine to produce aluminium bromide.

Complete the balanced chemical equation for this reaction.

[2 marks]

_____ Al + _____ Br_2 → 2 _____

5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 02 · continued

0 4 . 5 When chlorine reacts with potassium bromide, chlorine displaces bromine.

$$Cl_2 + 2\,KBr \rightarrow Br_2 + 2\,KCl$$

Explain why chlorine is more reactive than bromine.

[3 marks]

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5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 03

0 4 This question is about elements in the periodic table.

0 4 . 1 What order did scientists use to arrange elements in early periodic tables?

[1 mark]

0 4 . 2 In the early periodic tables some elements were placed in the wrong groups.

Mendeleev overcame this in his periodic table.

Give **one** way Mendeleev did this.

[1 mark]

Question 4 continues on the next page

5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 03 · continued

Table 2 shows the boiling points of fluorine, chlorine and bromine.

Table 2

Element	Boiling point in °C
Fluorine	–186
Chlorine	–34
Bromine	+59

0 4 . 3 Explain why the boiling points in **Table 2** are low.

[2 marks]

0 4 . 4 Explain the trend in the boiling points in **Table 2**.

[3 marks]

5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 03 · continued

0 4 . 5 Explain why neon is unreactive.

Give the electronic structure of neon in your answer.

[2 marks]

0 4 . 6 How many atoms are there in 1 g of argon?

The Avogadro constant is 6.02×10^{23} per mole.

Relative atomic mass (A_r): Ar = 40

[2 marks]

Number of atoms in 1 g = _____

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5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 04

0 6 This question is about hydrogen chloride and hydrochloric acid.

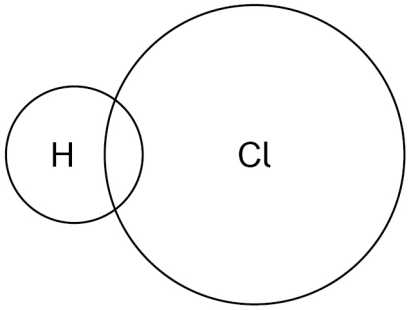
0 6 . 1 Complete the dot and cross diagram to represent the bonding in hydrogen chloride on **Figure 7**.

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

You should show only the electrons in the outer shells.

[2 marks]

Figure 7



0 6 . 2 Hydrogen chloride dissolves in water to produce hydrochloric acid.

Hydrochloric acid is a strong acid.

What is meant by the term strong acid?

[1 mark]

0 6 . 3 Describe how magnesium can be used to distinguish between a strong acid and a weak acid of the same concentration.

[2 marks]

5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 04 · continued

0 6 . 4 The concentration of hydrochloric acid is increased by a factor of 100

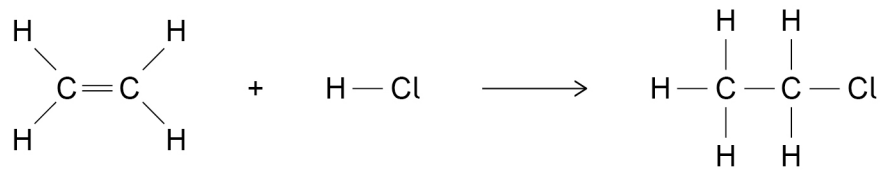
What is the change in pH?

[2 marks]

Question 6 continues on the next page

0 6 . 5 Ethene and hydrogen chloride react to produce chloroethane.

The displayed formulae equation for the reaction is:



The reaction is exothermic.

In the reaction the energy released forming new bonds is 56 kJ/mol greater than the energy needed to break existing bonds.

Table 1 shows some bond energies.

Table 1

Bond	H–C	C=C	H–Cl	C–C	C–Cl
Bond energy in kJ/mol	413	**X**	431	346	339

Calculate the bond energy **X**.

[4 marks]

X = _____ kJ/mol

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Question 05

June 2023 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q4

0 4 Group 7 elements are known as the halogens.

All atoms of Group 7 elements contain protons, neutrons and electrons.

0 4 . 1 What is the order of discovery of the proton, neutron and electron?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

electron → neutron → proton ☐

electron → proton → neutron ☐

neutron → proton → electron ☐

proton → electron → neutron ☐

0 4 . 2 **Table 1** shows the mass of a proton and of an electron.

Table 1

Name of particle	Mass in kg
Proton	1.673×10^{-27}
Electron	9.109×10^{-31}

Calculate how many times heavier a proton is than an electron.

[2 marks]

Times heavier a proton is than an electron = _____

5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 05 · continued

A bromine atom can be represented as $^{81}_{35}Br$.

0 4 . 3 What is the number of neutrons in this bromine atom?

[1 mark]

0 4 . 4 What is the number of electrons in a bromide **ion**?

[1 mark]

0 4 . 5 Chlorine has two isotopes.

Table 2 shows the percentage abundance of the two isotopes of chlorine.

Table 2

Isotope	Percentage (%) abundance
$^{35}_{17}Cl$	75.77
$^{37}_{17}Cl$	24.23

Calculate the relative atomic mass (A_r) of chlorine.

Give your answer to 2 decimal places.

[3 marks]

Relative atomic mass (2 decimal places) = _____

5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

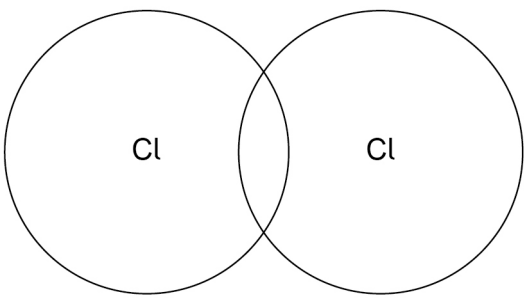
Question 05 · continued

0 4 . 6 **Figure 4** shows the outer shells in one molecule of chlorine (Cl_2).

Complete the dot and cross diagram to show the electrons in the outer shells.

[2 marks]

Figure 4



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5.1.1.7 Electronic structure

Question 06

0 5 This question is about hydrogen chloride (HCl) and hydrogen chlorate (HOCl).

Hydrogen chloride and hydrogen chlorate both form acids when dissolved in water.

0 5 . 1 Hydrogen chloride gas dissolves in water to form hydrochloric acid.

Give the state symbols for:

- hydrogen chloride
- water
- hydrochloric acid.

[1 mark]

Hydrogen chloride _____

Water _____

Hydrochloric acid _____

0 5 . 2 A solution of hydrochloric acid has:

- a pH of 2.5
- a concentration of H^+ ions of 3.16×10^{-3} mol/dm^3.

What is the concentration of H^+ ions in a solution of hydrochloric acid that has a pH of 3.5?

[1 mark]

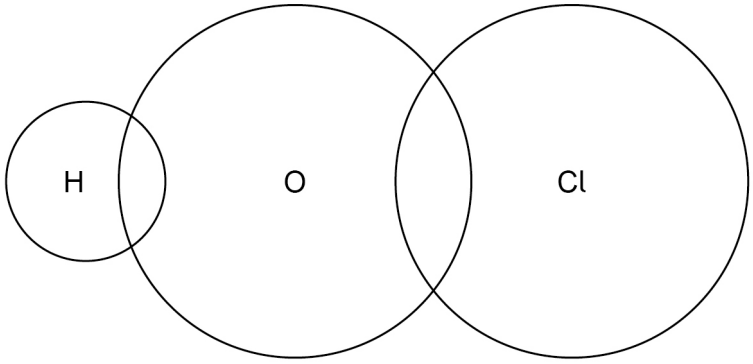
Concentration = _____ mol/dm^3

0 5 . 3 **Figure 5** shows the outer shells in one molecule of hydrogen chlorate (HOCl).

Complete the dot and cross diagram to show the electrons in the outer shells.

[2 marks]

Figure 5



0 5 . 4 Hydrogen chlorate dissolves in water to form a weak acid.

Explain why a weak acid has a higher pH than a strong acid of the same concentration.

[2 marks]

Question 5 continues on the next page

0 5 . 5 Hydrogen chloride is produced in the reaction between methane and chlorine.

Figure 6 represents the equation for the reaction.

Figure 6

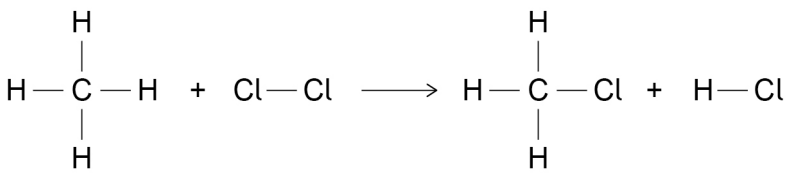


Table 4 shows the bond energies.

Table 4

Bond	C — H	Cl — Cl	C — Cl	H — Cl
Bond energy in kJ/mol	413	243	346	432

Calculate the overall energy change for the reaction.

[3 marks]

Overall energy change = _____ kJ/mol

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