AQA GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy | 8464

SPECIFICATION POINT 5.2.2.2

State symbols

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.

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 01

June 2018 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q4

0 4 This question is about the halogens.

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

[1 mark]

Cl_2 (_____)

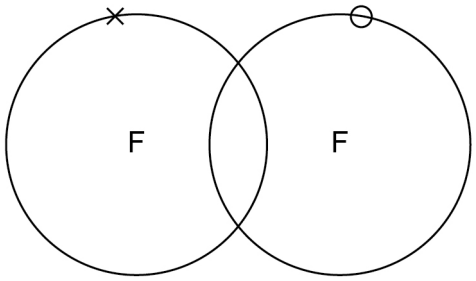
0 4 . 2 **Figure 4** represents one molecule of fluorine.

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 _____

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 01 · 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]

9

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 02

June 2019 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q2

0 2 This question is about salts.

Ammonium nitrate solution is produced when ammonia gas reacts with nitric acid.

0 2 . 1 Give the state symbol for ammonium nitrate solution.

[1 mark]

_____

0 2 . 2 What is the formula of nitric acid?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

HCl ☐

HNO_3 ☐

H_2SO_4 ☐

NH_4OH ☐

0 2 . 3 Ammonia gas dissolves in water to produce ammonia solution.

Ammonia solution contains hydroxide ions, OH^-

A student adds universal indicator to solutions of nitric acid and ammonia.

What colour is observed in each solution?

[2 marks]

Colour in nitric acid _____

Colour in ammonia solution _____

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 02 · continued

0 2 . 4 The student gradually added nitric acid to ammonia solution.

Which row, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**, shows the change in pH as the nitric acid is added until in excess?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

	pH of ammonia solution at start	pH after addition of excess nitric acid	
A	10	7	☐
B	2	10	☐
C	7	1	☐
D	10	2	☐

0 2 . 5 Calculate the percentage by mass of oxygen in ammonium nitrate (NH_4NO_3).

Relative atomic masses (A_r): H = 1 N = 14 O = 16

Relative formula mass (M_r): NH_4NO_3 = 80

[3 marks]

Percentage by mass of oxygen = _____ %

Question 2 continues on the next page

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 02 · continued

0 2 . 6 Describe a method to investigate how the temperature changes when different masses of ammonium nitrate are dissolved in water.

You do **not** need to write about safety precautions.

[6 marks]

14

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 03

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

0 4 This question is about acids, alkalis and bases.

A student reacted zinc oxide powder with hydrochloric acid to produce zinc chloride solution.

0 4 . 1 Complete the equation for the reaction by writing the state symbols.

[2 marks]

$$ZnO(_____) + 2\,HCl(_____) \rightarrow ZnCl_2(_____) + H_2O(_____)$$

0 4 . 2 Give **one** way that the student could speed up the reaction between zinc oxide powder and hydrochloric acid.

[1 mark]

Hydrochloric acid was the limiting reactant.

0 4 . 3 How could the student know when all the hydrochloric acid has reacted?

[1 mark]

0 4 . 4 How could the student obtain zinc chloride solution from the reaction mixture when all the hydrochloric acid has reacted?

[1 mark]

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 03 · continued

0 4 . 5 Describe how zinc chloride crystals are produced from zinc chloride solution.

[2 marks]

Sulfuric acid and sodium hydroxide react to produce sodium sulfate.

0 4 . 6 Sulfuric acid is gradually added to sodium hydroxide solution.

The pH of the mixture changes as the sulfuric acid is added until in excess.

Suggest the pH at:

- the start before sulfuric acid is added
- the end when sulfuric acid is in excess.

[2 marks]

pH at start = _____

pH at end = _____

0 4 . 7 Complete the symbol equation for the preparation of sodium sulfate.

You should balance the equation.

[2 marks]

_____ $NaOH$ + H_2SO_4 → _____ + _____

Question 4 continues on the next page

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 03 · continued

0 4 . 8 A solution of hydrochloric acid had a hydrogen ion concentration of 1.0 mol/dm^3

Water was added to the hydrochloric acid until the pH increased by 1

What was the hydrogen ion concentration of the hydrochloric acid after water had been added?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

100 mol/dm^3 ☐

10 mol/dm^3 ☐

0.10 mol/dm^3 ☐

0.010 mol/dm^3 ☐

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5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 04

November 2021 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q2

0 2 Acids react to produce salts.

Universal indicator is added to water and then nitric acid is added to the mixture.

0 2 . 1 Give the colour change when nitric acid is added to the mixture of universal indicator and water.

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Blue to red ☐
- Green to purple ☐
- Green to red ☐
- Red to purple ☐

0 2 . 2 What happens to the pH of water when nitric acid is added?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Decreases ☐
- Stays the same ☐
- Increases ☐

0 2 . 3 What is the state symbol for nitric acid?

[1 mark]

_____

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 04 · continued

Zinc carbonate reacts with nitric acid.

The word equation for the reaction is:

zinc carbonate (white solid) + nitric acid → zinc nitrate (colourless solution) + water + carbon dioxide

0 2 . 4 Give **two** observations that would be made when zinc carbonate is added to nitric acid until the zinc carbonate is in excess.

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

0 2 . 5 The formula of the zinc ion is Zn^{2+}

The formula of the nitrate ion is NO_3^-

What is the formula for zinc nitrate?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- $ZnNO_3$ ☐
- $Zn(NO_3)_2$ ☐
- Zn_2NO_3 ☐
- $Zn_2(NO_3)_2$ ☐

Question 2 continues on the next page

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 04 · continued

0 2 . 6 Acids react with insoluble metal oxides to produce salts.

Plan a method to produce a pure, dry sample of the soluble salt copper chloride from an acid and a metal oxide.

[6 marks]

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5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 05

June 2022 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q4

0 4 This question is about Group 7 elements.

0 4 . 1 What are the Group 7 elements known as?

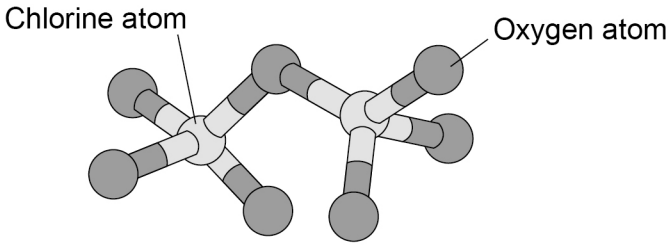
[1 mark]

0 4 . 2 Why do Group 7 elements react in similar ways?

[1 mark]

0 4 . 3 **Figure 3** shows the structure of a molecule of chlorine oxide.

Figure 3



What is the molecular formula of the chlorine oxide molecule in **Figure 3**?

[1 mark]

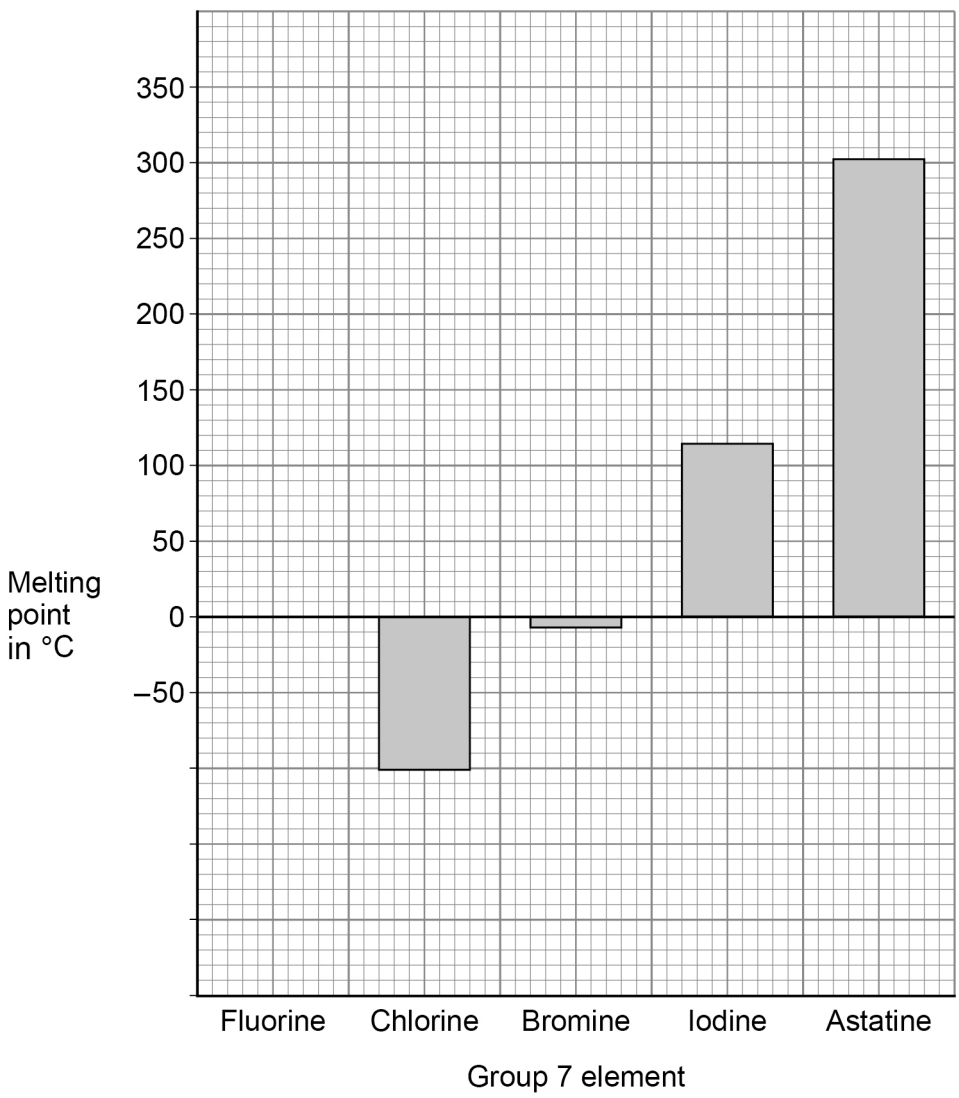
Question 4 continues on the next page

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 05 · continued

Figure 4 shows the melting points of some Group 7 elements.

Figure 4



0 4 . 4 The melting point of fluorine is –220 °C

Complete **Figure 4**.

You should:

- complete the scale on the y-axis
- draw the bar for the melting point of fluorine.

[2 marks]

5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 05 · continued

0 4 . 5 Explain the trend in the melting points of the Group 7 elements.

Use **Figure 4**.

[3 marks]

0 4 . 6 What is the state symbol for bromine at –50 °C?

Use **Figure 4**.

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

(aq) ☐ (g) ☐ (l) ☐ (s) ☐

0 4 . 7 Evaporation and boiling occur at the surface of bromine at its boiling point.

Name **one** more process that happens at the surface of bromine at its boiling point.

[1 mark]

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5.2.2.2 State symbols

Question 06

June 2025 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q5

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

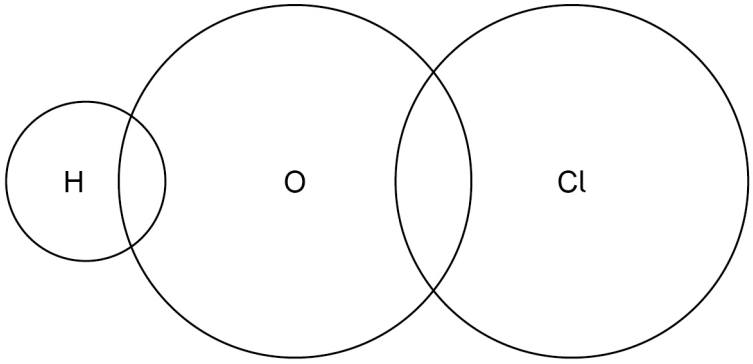
5.2.2.2 State symbols

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

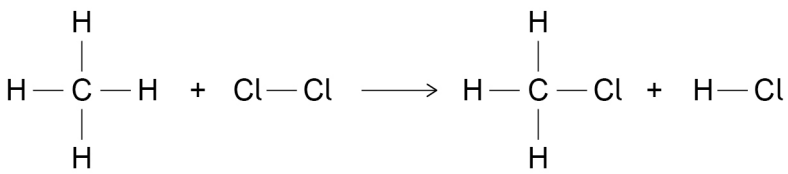


Table 4 shows the bond energies.

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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