AQA GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy | 8464

SPECIFICATION POINT 5.4.2.3

Soluble salts

Past-paper questions

Tier	**Higher**
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.

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 01

June 2018 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q3

0 3 A student plans a method to prepare pure crystals of copper sulfate.

The student's method is:

1. Add one spatula of calcium carbonate to dilute hydrochloric acid in a beaker.
2. When the fizzing stops, heat the solution with a Bunsen burner until all the liquid is gone.

The method contains several errors and does not produce copper sulfate crystals.

Explain the improvements the student should make to the method so that pure crystals of copper sulfate are produced.

[6 marks]

6

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

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 _____

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

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

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

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

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 03

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]

_____

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 03 · 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

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 03 · 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]

12

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 04

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

0 1 This question is about salts.

Green copper carbonate and sulfuric acid can be used to produce blue copper sulfate crystals.

0 1 . 1 **Excess** copper carbonate is added to sulfuric acid.

Give **three** observations you would make.

[3 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

3 _____

_____

0 1 . 2 How can the excess copper carbonate be removed?

[1 mark]

_____

_____

0 1 . 3 The pH of the solution changes during the reaction.

What is the pH of the solution at the end of the reaction?

[1 mark]

pH = _____

0 1 . 4 Copper carbonate and sulfuric acid react to produce copper sulfate.

What type of reaction is this?

[1 mark]

_____

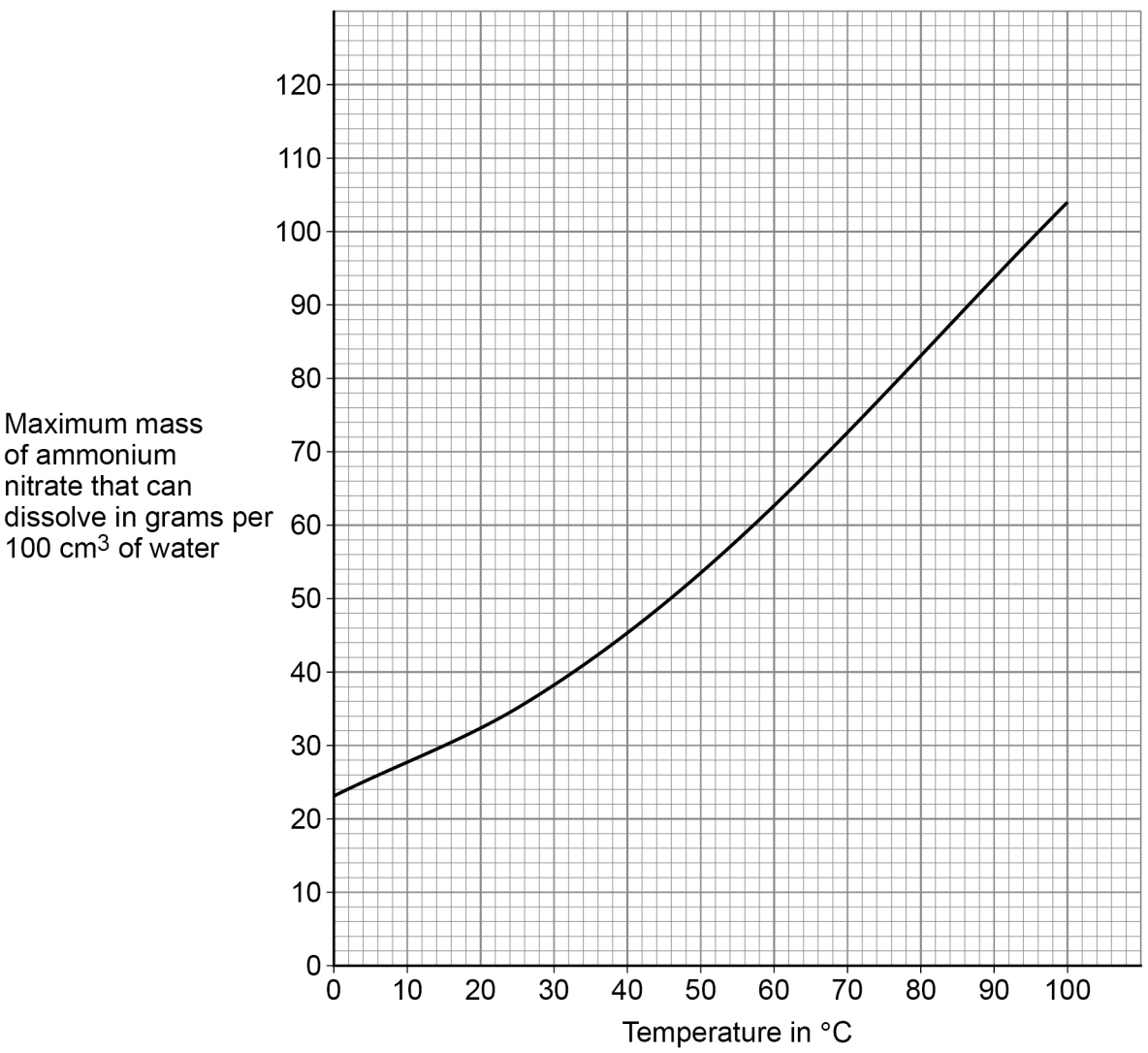
5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 04 · continued

0 1 . 5 Ammonium nitrate is a salt.

Figure 1 shows the maximum mass of ammonium nitrate that can dissolve in 100 cm^3 of water at different temperatures.

Figure 1



5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 04 · continued

A student adds ammonium nitrate to water at 80 °C until no more dissolves.

The student cools 100 cm^3 of this solution of ammonium nitrate from 80 °C to 20 °C to produce crystals of ammonium nitrate.

Determine the mass of ammonium nitrate that crystallises on cooling 100 cm^3 of this solution from 80 °C to 20 °C

[3 marks]

Mass = _____ g

9

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 05

June 2022 | 8464/C/2H | Original Q2

0 2 . 1 Water that is safe to drink is called potable water.

Compare how easily potable water can be obtained from:

- waste water (sewage)
- ground water (fresh water).

[6 marks]

Question 2 continues on the next page

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 05 · continued

A scientist produced potable water from 150 cm^3 of salty water.

0 2 . 2 Which process can be used to produce potable water from salty water?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Distillation ☐
- Electrolysis ☐
- Filtration ☐
- Sterilisation ☐

0 2 . 3 The salty water contains sodium chloride.

The scientist collected 2.40 g of sodium chloride from 150 cm^3 of salty water.

Calculate the concentration of sodium chloride in grams per dm^3

[3 marks]

Concentration of sodium chloride = _____ g/dm^3

10

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 06

June 2023 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q6

0 6 Acids react with some metals to produce soluble salts.

A student adds magnesium to hydrochloric acid until no more acid reacts and excess magnesium remains.

The equation for the reaction is:

$$Mg(s) + 2\,HCl(aq) \rightarrow MgCl_2(aq) + H_2(g)$$

0 6 . 1 Describe how solid magnesium chloride is obtained from the reaction mixture.

[2 marks]

0 6 . 2 The reaction between magnesium and hydrochloric acid is a redox reaction.

Explain what happens to the magnesium atoms in this reaction.

[2 marks]

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 06 · continued

0 6 . 3 0.72 g of magnesium is added to 100 cm^3 of hydrochloric acid.

The hydrochloric acid is in excess.

Calculate the concentration of the magnesium chloride ($MgCl_2$) solution produced in g/dm^3.

Relative atomic mass (A_r): Mg = 24

Relative formula mass (M_r): $MgCl_2$ = 95

[6 marks]

Concentration = _____ g/dm^3

10

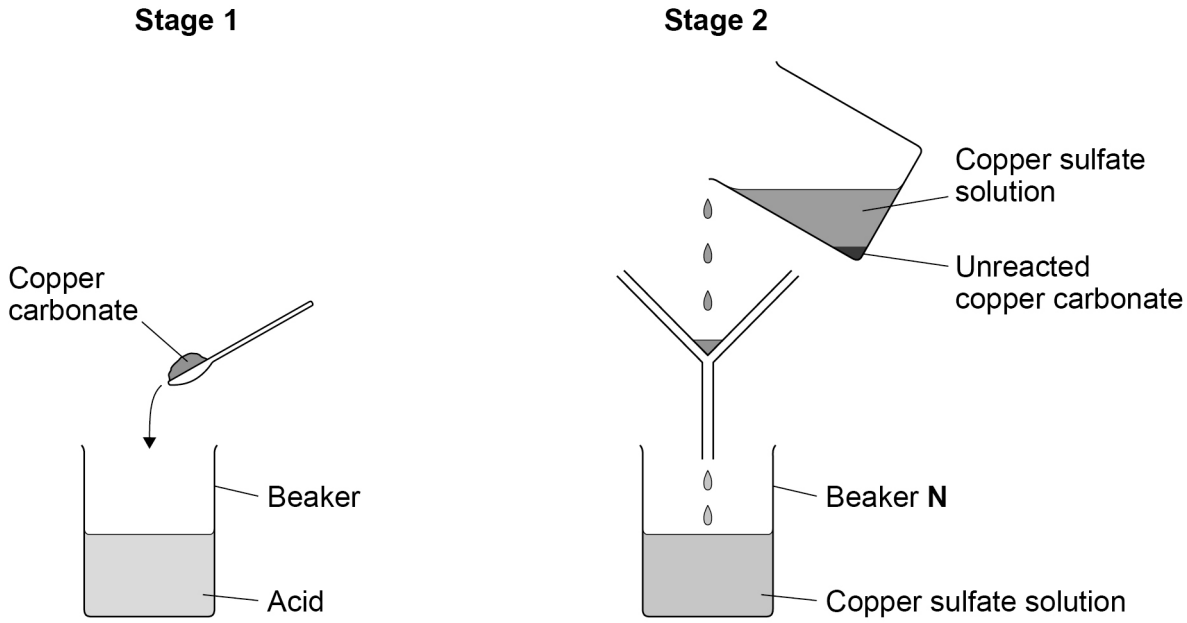
5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 07

0 2 A student prepared copper sulfate by reacting an acid with excess copper carbonate.

Figure 3 shows the first two stages in the preparation of copper sulfate.

Figure 3



0 2 . 1 What is the formula of the acid used to prepare copper sulfate?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

HCl ☐

HNO_3 ☐

H_2SO_4 ☐

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

Question 07 · continued

0 2 . 2 Why is excess copper carbonate used in **stage 1**?

[1 mark]

0 2 . 3 Beaker **N** contained copper sulfate solution.

Describe how the student could produce copper sulfate crystals from the copper sulfate solution in beaker **N**.

[2 marks]

Question 2 continues on the next page

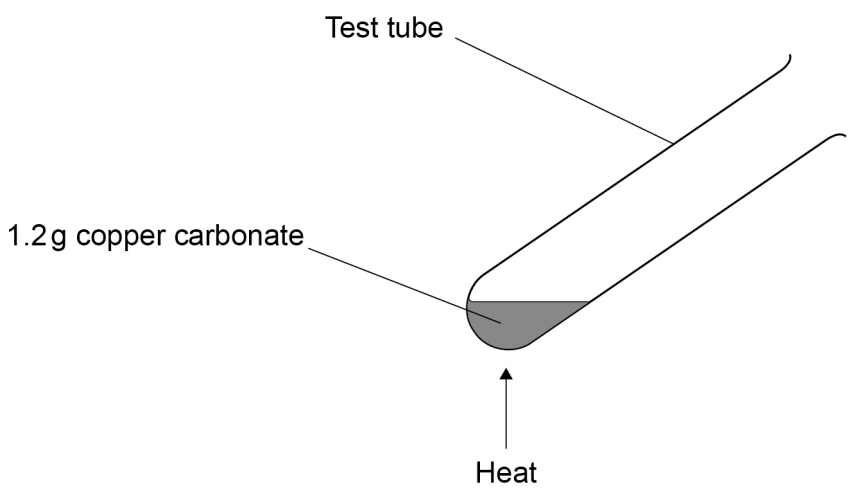
Question 07 · continued

A student investigated the thermal decomposition of copper carbonate.

Copper carbonate decomposes to form two products.

Figure 4 shows the apparatus.

Figure 4



This is the method used.

1. Add 1.2 g of copper carbonate to a test tube.
2. Heat the test tube and contents until the mass does not change.
3. Record the mass of the contents of the test tube after heating.
4. Repeat steps 1 to 3 with different masses of copper carbonate.

Table 1 shows the results.

Table 1

Mass of copper carbonate in test tube before heating in grams	Mass of the contents of test tube after heating in grams
1.2	0.8
2.4	1.7
3.6	2.2
4.8	3.1
6.0	3.9

5.4.2.3 Soluble salts

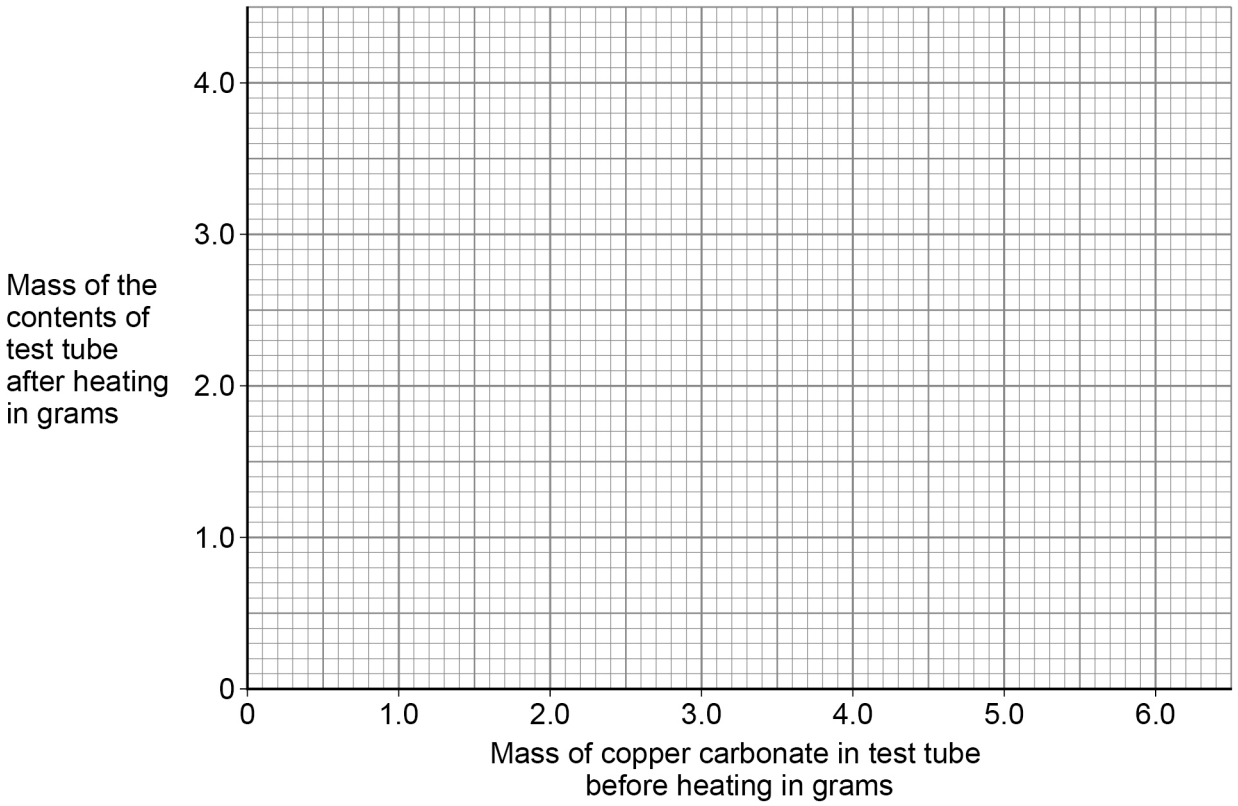
Question 07 · continued

0 2 . 4 Plot the data from **Table 1** on **Figure 5**.

Draw a line of best fit.

[3 marks]

Figure 5



0 2 . 5 Why does the mass of the contents of the test tube decrease in mass when copper carbonate is thermally decomposed?

[1 mark]

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