AQA GCSE Combined Science - Trilogy | 8464

SPECIFICATION POINT 5.4.2.5

Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Past-paper questions

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**4**
Available paper years	**2020–2025**

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.

5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 01

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]

5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 01 · 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

5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 01 · 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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5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 02

June 2022 | 8464/C/1H | Original Q6

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

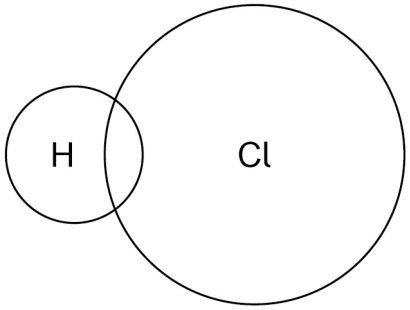
0 6 . 1 Complete the dot and cross diagram to represent the bonding in hydrogen chloride on **Figure 7**.

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]

5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 02 · continued

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

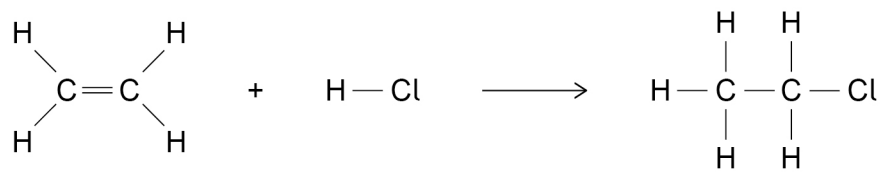
What is the change in pH?

[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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5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 03

0 4 Nitric acid (HNO_3) is a strong acid.

0 4 . 1 What is meant by a 'strong acid'?

[1 mark]

0 4 . 2 Nitric acid is used as a dilute aqueous solution.

What is meant by 'dilute aqueous solution'?

[1 mark]

Question 4 continues on the next page

Question 03 · continued

0 4 . 3 10 cm^3 of a nitric acid solution has a pH of 1

Water is added to the nitric acid solution to change the pH of the nitric acid solution to pH 3

How does the hydrogen ion concentration change?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

- Decreases by a factor of 100 ☐
- Decreases by a factor of 10 ☐
- Increases by a factor of 10 ☐
- Increases by a factor of 100 ☐

0 4 . 4 Write the **ionic** equation for the reaction between an acid and an alkali.

[1 mark]

_____ + _____ → _____

5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 03 · continued

The equation shows the reaction between magnesium carbonate and nitric acid.

$$MgCO_3 + 2\,HNO_3 \rightarrow Mg(NO_3)_2 + H_2O + CO_2$$

0 4 . 5 What is the ratio of the number of moles of magnesium carbonate to the number of moles of nitric acid in the reaction?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

1 : 1 ☐

1 : 2 ☐

2 : 1 ☐

2 : 2 ☐

0 4 . 6 A student mixed some magnesium carbonate with excess nitric acid.

The student then added two drops of universal indicator to the solution.

What colour was the solution after the addition of universal indicator?

[1 mark]

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Red ☐

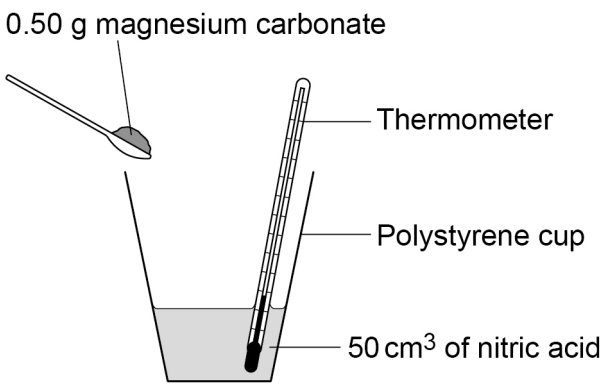
Green ☐

Blue ☐

A student investigated the temperature change when different masses of magnesium carbonate were reacted with excess nitric acid.

Figure 6 shows the apparatus.

Figure 6



This is the method used.

1. Pour 50 cm^3 of nitric acid into a polystyrene cup.

2. Measure the temperature of the solution.

3. Add 0.50 g of magnesium carbonate.

4. Stir the mixture.

5. Measure the temperature.

6. Repeat steps 1 to 5 with different masses of magnesium carbonate.

0 4 . 7 Give **two** improvements to the **method** to produce more accurate results.

Do **not** refer to improvements to the apparatus in your answer.

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

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5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 04

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

5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

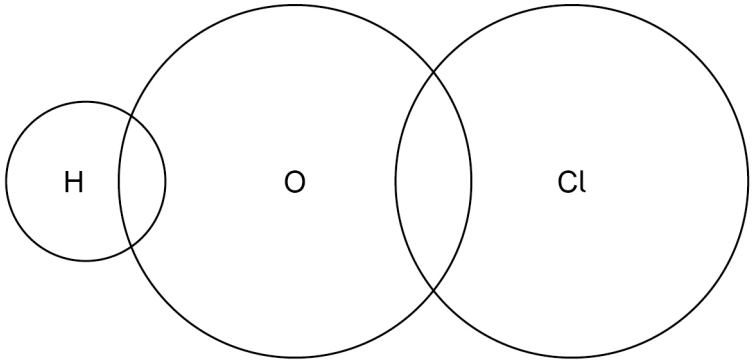
Question 04 · continued

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

5.4.2.5 Strong and weak acids (HT only)

Question 04 · continued

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

Figure 6 represents the equation for the reaction.

Figure 6

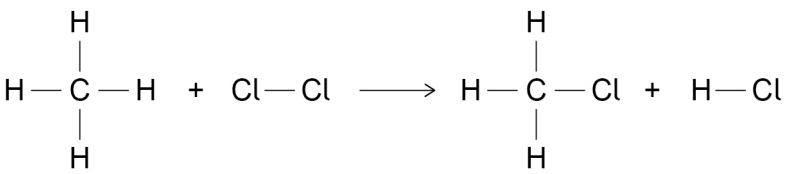


Table 4 shows the bond energies.

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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