



EUNOIA JUNIOR COLLEGE  
JC2 Preliminary Examination 2021  
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level  
Higher 2

CANDIDATE  
NAME

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CIVICS  
GROUP

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REGISTRATION  
NUMBER

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## CHEMISTRY

Paper 2 Structured Questions

**9729/02**

**16 September 2021**

**2 hours**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: Data Booklet

### READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Do not use paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Write your name, civics group, registration number on all the work you hand in.

Write in **dark blue or black pen**.

You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

Answer all questions on the **Question Paper**

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

A Data Booklet is provided.

The use of an approved scientific calculator is expected, where appropriate.

For Examiner's Use	
Paper 2	
1	/15
2	/12
3	/13
4	/15
5	/20
Total	/75

This document consists of **19** printed pages and **1** blank page.

- 1 Nitrosyl chloride,  $\text{NOCl}$  decomposes at temperatures above  $100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  to form nitrogen monoxide and chlorine as shown in the equation below.

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- (a) A sample of  $\text{NOCl}$  was allowed to decompose at  $127\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $147\text{ atm}$ . Assuming that  $\text{NOCl}$  behaves ideally, show that its initial concentration is  $4.48\text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} pV &= nRT \\ [\text{NOCl}] &= \frac{n}{V} = \frac{p}{RT} \\ &= \frac{147 \times 101325}{8.31 \times (127 + 273)} \\ &= 4480\text{ mol m}^{-3} \\ &= \frac{4480}{1000}\text{ mol dm}^{-3} \\ &= \underline{4.48\text{ mol dm}^{-3}} \end{aligned}$$

[2]

- (b) A student pointed out that the assumption in (a) that  $\text{NOCl}$  behaves ideally is not valid. Suggest and explain **two** possible reasons why this may be so.

The pressure of  $\text{NOCl}$  is very high, causing the volume of each gas particle  
becomes more significant relative to the total volume of the gas.

$\text{NOCl}$  has significant intermolecular forces of attraction as it is polar/has a  
relatively large polarizable electron cloud.

[2]

- (c) The change in the concentration of  $\text{NOCl}$  was monitored as the decomposition reaction occurred over time. The data obtained is shown in Fig. 1.1.

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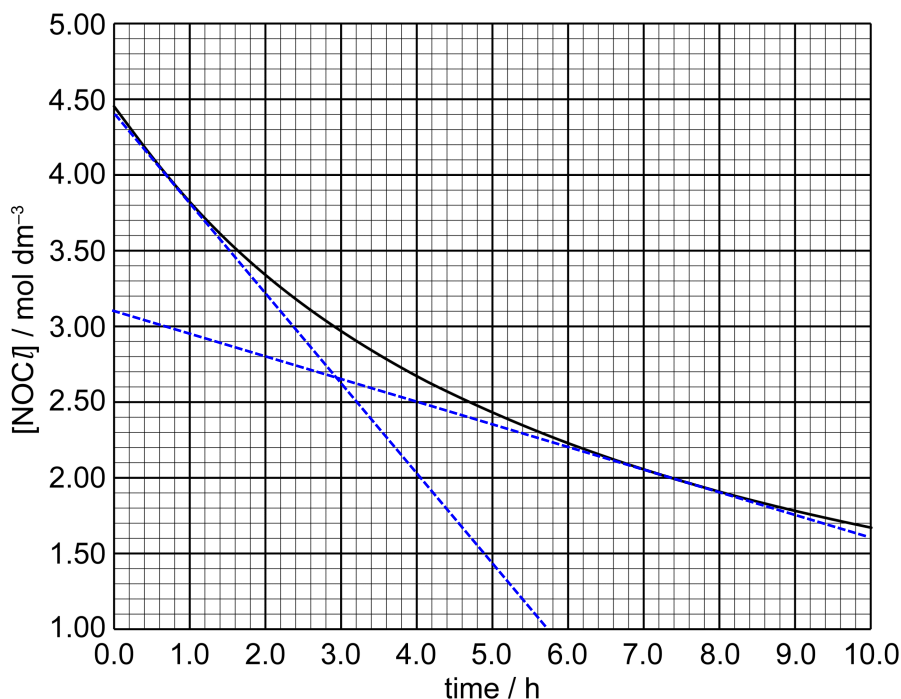


Fig. 1.1

- (i) Using Fig. 1.1, show that the reaction is second order with respect to  $\text{NOCl}$ .

$$\text{rate at } 4.00 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} = \frac{4.40 - 1.00}{0.0 - 5.7} = 0.5965 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ h}^{-1}$$

$$\text{rate at } 2.00 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} = \frac{3.10 - 1.60}{0.0 - 10.0} = 0.1500 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ h}^{-1}$$

Since the rate increases by  $\frac{0.596}{0.150} \approx 4 \text{ times}$  when [NOCl] doubles, the reaction is second order with respect to  $\text{NOCl}$ .

[3]

- (ii) Given that the rate equation is  $\text{rate} = k[\text{NOCl}]^2$ , calculate the rate constant of the reaction, stating its units clearly.

$$\text{rate} = k[\text{NOCl}]^2$$

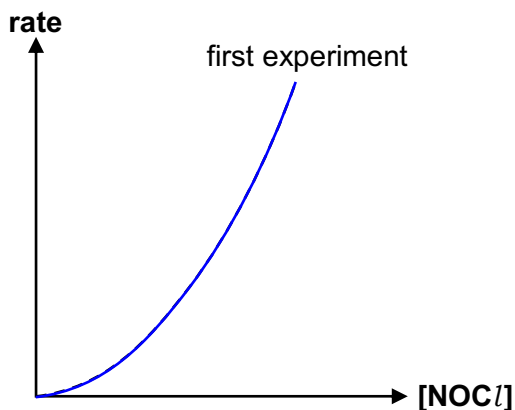
$$0.5965 = k(4.00)^2$$

$$k = \underline{0.0373 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ h}^{-1}}$$

[2]

- (iii) A second experiment was conducted under the same conditions, but using half the initial concentration of  $\text{NOCl}$ .

On the axes provided below, sketch the graph that will be obtained using data from the second experiment, relative to that provided for the first experiment.



[1]

- (d) (i) Define *half-life*.

Half-life of a reaction is the time taken for the concentration/amount of a reactant to decrease to half its initial value.

[1]

- (ii) The rate equation for the second-order decomposition of  $\text{NOCl}$  can also be represented in the following manner:

$$\frac{1}{[\text{NOCl}]_t} - \frac{1}{[\text{NOCl}]_0} = kt$$

where  $[\text{NOCl}]_t$  = concentration of  $\text{NOCl}$  at time,  $t$ ,

$[\text{NOCl}]_0$  = original concentration of  $\text{NOCl}$ , and

$k$  = rate constant

Using this equation, derive an expression for the half-life of the reaction.

$$\frac{1}{[\text{NOCl}]_t} - \frac{1}{[\text{NOCl}]_0} = kt$$

$$\frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}[\text{NOCl}]_0} - \frac{1}{[\text{NOCl}]_0} = kt_{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$t_{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{k[\text{NOCl}]_0}$$

[1]

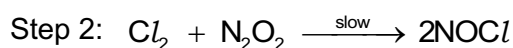
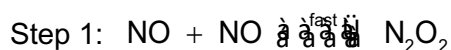
- (iii) Hence, state and explain whether the half-life of a second-order reaction will increase or decrease as the reaction proceeds.

Since half-life is inversely proportional to the initial reference concentration of the reactant, it will increase as the reaction proceeds.

.....[1]

- (e) The reverse of the decomposition reaction can also occur such that  $\text{NOCl}$  is formed from  $\text{NO}$  and  $\text{Cl}_2$ .

Given that a possible mechanism for the reaction is as shown below, suggest the rate equation for the reaction.



From slow step:  $\text{rate} = k[\text{Cl}_2][\text{N}_2\text{O}_2]$

However,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  is an intermediate.

From Step 1,

$$K_c = \frac{[\text{N}_2\text{O}_2]}{[\text{NO}]^2}$$

$$\text{rate} = k[\text{Cl}_2][\text{N}_2\text{O}_2]$$

$$= k[\text{Cl}_2](K_c[\text{NO}]^2)$$

$$= k'[\text{Cl}_2][\text{NO}]^2, \text{ where } k' = k \times K_c$$

[2]

[Total: 15]

- 2 During the 2000s, researchers looked into creating high-capacity rechargeable batteries for use in energy storage in renewable energy generation. The zinc-cerium battery shown in Fig. 2.1 is one example of such a rechargeable battery involving redox flow.

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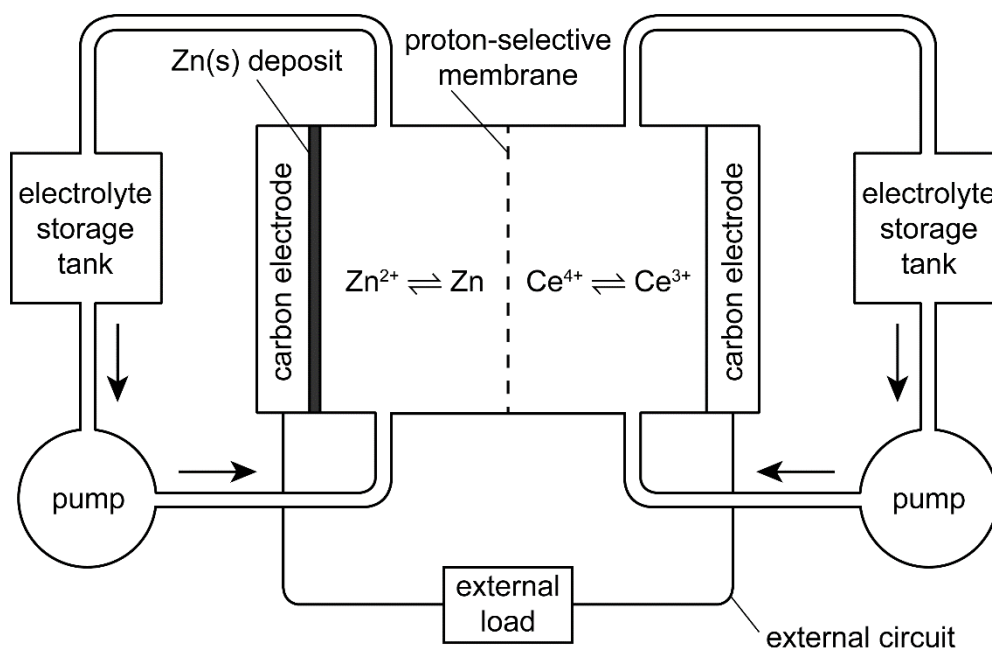


Fig. 2.1

The half-cells are made up of the following:

half-cell	electrolyte	electrode
$\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn}$	$\text{Zn}(\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3)_2(\text{aq})$ , $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}(\text{aq})$	carbon-based polymer (similar to graphite) with fine Zn metal particles on surface
$\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$	$\text{Ce}(\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3)_3(\text{aq})$ , $\text{Ce}(\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3)_4(\text{aq})$ , $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}(\text{aq})$	carbon-based polymer (similar to graphite)

The two electrolytes, consisting of methanesulfonic acid,  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ , and the respective salts, are separated by a proton-selective membrane.

(a) During the discharge process, the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn}$  half-cell undergoes oxidation.

- (i) Identify the polarity of the electrodes for the half-cells during the discharge process.

$\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn}$ : ..... **negative** .....  $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$ : ..... **positive** ..... [1]

- (ii) Draw on Fig. 2.1 the direction of electron flow in the external circuit during the discharge process. [1]

- (iii) Write the overall equation for the reaction during the discharge process.



- (iv) Given that  $E^{\ominus}(\text{Ce}^{4+}|\text{Ce}^{3+}) = +1.44 \text{ V}$ , with the aid of the *Data Booklet*, calculate the  $E_{\text{cell}}^{\ominus}$  for the reaction during the discharge process.



$E_{\text{cell}}^{\ominus} = +1.44 - (-0.76) = \underline{+2.20 \text{ V}}$

[1]

- (v) Hence, calculate the standard Gibbs free energy in  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta G^{\ominus} &= -nFE_{\text{cell}}^{\ominus} \\ &= -(2)(96500)(+2.20) \\ &= -424600 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \\ &= \underline{-425 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}} \text{ (3 s.f.)} \end{aligned}$$

[1]

- (b) Methanesulfonic acid dissociates fully in water. During the discharging process, the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn}$  half-cell becomes more positive than the  $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$  half-cell over time.

- (i) Explain how the proton exchange membrane maintains electrical neutrality.

It allows for migration of  $\text{H}^{+}$  ions / protons from  $\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn}$  tank to the  $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$  tank to maintain electrical neutrality. ....[1]

When a high concentration of methanesulfonic acid was used, it was found that cerium(III) methanesulfonate,  $\text{Ce}(\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3)_3$ , precipitates out in the electrolyte.

- (ii) Suggest the effect on  $E_{\text{cell}}$  when a higher concentration of methanesulfonic acid was used as the electrolyte. Explain your answer.

With an increase in the concentration of methanesulfonic acid,  $\text{Ce}(\text{III})$  methanesulfonate will precipitate out, resulting in a decrease in the concentration of  $\text{Ce}^{3+}(\text{aq})$ . The  $E$  for the cathode will be more positive than  $+1.44 \text{ V}$ , giving in a more positive  $E_{\text{cell}}$  compared to  $E_{\text{cell}}^{\ominus} = +2.40 \text{ V}$ . ....[2]

- (c) Although the zinc-cerium battery has potential in renewable energy storage, some side-reactions hinder its application.

During the **charging process**, the electromotive force used is large enough to drive these side-reactions to be thermodynamically feasible.

Using relevant values from the *Data Booklet*, identify one side-reaction during the charging process and explain why it will occur.

Since  $E^\ominus(\text{H}^+|\text{H}_2)=+0.00\text{ V}$  is more positive than  $E^\ominus(\text{Zn}^{2+}|\text{Zn})=-0.76\text{ V}$ ,  $\text{H}^+$

can be reduced to  $\text{H}_2$  in the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn}$  half-cell . or

Since  $E^\ominus(\text{O}_2|\text{H}_2\text{O})=+1.23\text{ V}$  is less positive than  $E^\ominus(\text{Ce}^{4+}|\text{Ce}^{3+})=+1.44\text{ V}$ ,

$\text{H}_2\text{O}$  can be oxidised to  $\text{O}_2$  in the  $\text{Ce}^{3+}/\text{Ce}^{4+}$  half-cell . [2]

- (d) Suggest

- (i) why the carbon-based polymer can be used as a suitable material for the electrode for the  $\text{Ce}^{3+}/\text{Ce}^{4+}$  half-cell.

The carbon-based polymer is a **good electrical conductor / inert**.

.....[1]

- (ii) why the zinc-cerium battery has a short lifespan, by considering the possible reactions occurring at the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn}$  half-cell.

The Zn electrode will be **corroded over time by the acidic electrolyte**.

.....[1]

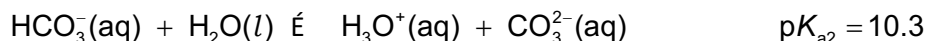
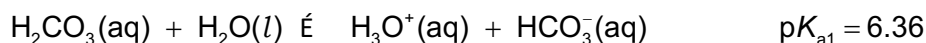
[Total: 12]



- 3 Double indicator acid-base titrations are used in scenarios where there is more than one end-point to a titration. Hence, it can also be used to determine the composition of mixtures of acids, as well as the pH of buffer solutions formed from polyprotic acids.

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A typical example of a polyprotic acid is carbonic acid, where:



- (a) Explain why the value of  $\text{p}K_{\text{a}2}$  is higher than that of  $\text{p}K_{\text{a}1}$ .

It is more difficult to lose a proton due to the stronger electrostatic force of attraction between the increasing negatively charged anion and the proton.

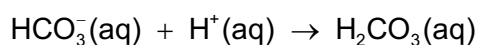
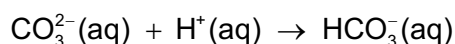
.....[1]

A buffer solution was prepared by mixing  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  and  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ . To determine the pH of the buffer solution, a double-indicator titration was performed with  $25.0 \text{ cm}^3$  of the buffer against  $0.200 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ HCl}$  using phenolphthalein ( $\text{p}K_{\text{In}} = 9.3$ ) as an indicator for the first end-point.

After the first end-point was attained, methyl orange ( $\text{p}K_{\text{In}} = 3.7$ ) was then added as the second indicator to the same solution to determine the second end-point.

The first end-point occur at  $16.90 \text{ cm}^3$ . An additional titre volume of  $19.20 \text{ cm}^3$  was required to reach the second end point.

The reaction between  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  ions and  $\text{HCl}$  occurs in two stages, with  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  as the intermediate product.



- (b) (i) Calculate the concentration of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  present in the buffer solution initially.

$$n_{\text{CO}_3^{2-}} = n_{\text{HCl}} \text{ reacted at the first end-point}$$

$$= \frac{16.90}{1000} \times 0.200 = 3.38 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol}$$

$$[\text{CO}_3^{2-}] = \frac{3.38 \times 10^{-3}}{\frac{25.0}{1000}}$$

$$= 0.1352$$

$$\approx \underline{0.135 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}}$$

[1]

- (ii) Hence or otherwise, calculate the volume of hydrochloric acid used to fully react with the  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  present in the buffer solution initially.

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_{\text{HCl}} \text{ required to react with } \text{CO}_3^{2-} \text{ at the second end-point} \\
 &= 2n_{\text{CO}_3^{2-}} = 2 \times 0.1352 \times \frac{25}{1000} \\
 &= 6.76 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol} \\
 \text{volume of HCl required to react with } \text{CO}_3^{2-} &= \frac{6.76 \times 10^{-3}}{0.200} \\
 &= 0.0338 \text{ dm}^3 \\
 &= 33.80 \text{ cm}^3 \\
 \text{volume of HCl required to react with } \text{HCO}_3^- &= 36.10 - 33.80 \\
 &= \underline{2.30 \text{ cm}^3} \\
 \text{Alternatively, } 19.20 - 16.90 &= 2.30 \text{ cm}^3
 \end{aligned}$$

[1]

- (iii) Using your answer to (b)(ii), calculate the concentration of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  present in the buffer solution.

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_{\text{HCO}_3^-} = n_{\text{HCl}} &= \frac{2.30}{1000} \times 0.200 = 4.60 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol} \\
 [\text{HCO}_3^-] &= \frac{4.60 \times 10^{-4}}{\frac{25.0}{1000}} = \underline{0.0184 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}}
 \end{aligned}$$

[1]

- (iv) Hence, calculate the initial pH of the buffer solution.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{pH} &= \text{p}K_{\text{a2}} + \lg \frac{[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]}{[\text{HCO}_3^-]} \\
 &= 10.3 + \lg \frac{0.1352}{0.0184} \\
 &= \underline{11.2}
 \end{aligned}$$

[1]

- (v) Calculate the pH of the mixture attained at the second equivalence point.

At the second equivalence point, the solution comprises  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  only

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_{\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3} &= n_{\text{CO}_3^{2-}} + n_{\text{HCO}_3^-} = 3.38 \times 10^{-3} + 4.60 \times 10^{-4} \\
 &= 3.84 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol} \\
 [\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3] &= \frac{3.84 \times 10^{-3}}{\frac{25.0 + 36.10}{1000}} = 0.06284 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \\
 [\text{H}^+] &= \sqrt{K_{\text{a1}} \times [\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3]} \\
 &= \sqrt{10^{-6.36} \times 0.06284} \\
 &= 1.656 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \\
 \text{pH} &= -\lg(1.656 \times 10^{-4}) \\
 &= \underline{3.78}
 \end{aligned}$$

[3]

- (vi) By considering the initial concentrations of  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  and  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , calculate the volume of  $\text{HCl}$  to be added to  $25.0 \text{ cm}^3$  of the buffer to produce a resultant mixture with a pH of 10.3.

Since  $\text{pH} = \text{p}K_{\text{a}2} = 10.3$

$$[\text{CO}_3^{2-}] = [\text{HCO}_3^-] = \frac{0.1352 + 0.0184}{2}$$

$$= 0.0768 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$$

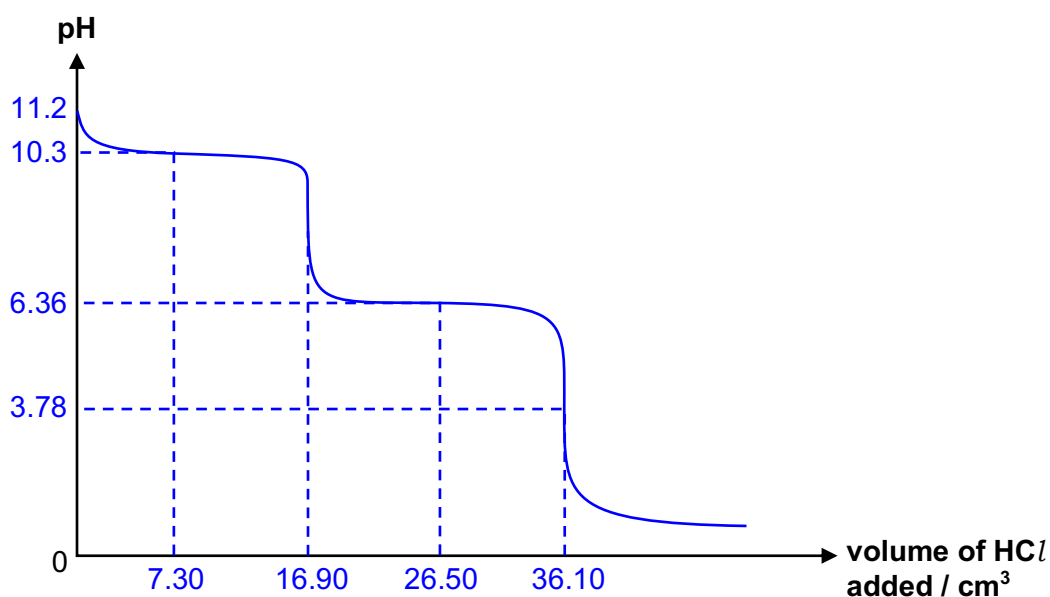
$$\text{volume of HCl added} = \frac{(0.1352 - 0.0768) \times \frac{25.0}{1000}}{0.200}$$

$$= 7.30 \times 10^{-3} \text{ dm}^3$$

$$= \underline{7.30 \text{ cm}^3}$$

[2]

- (c) Using the information provided in the question as well as your answers from (b)(iv) – (b)(vi), sketch a graph to show the pH changes that occur when  $50.00 \text{ cm}^3$  of  $0.200 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ HCl}$  is added to  $25.0 \text{ cm}^3$  of the initial buffer solution.



[2]

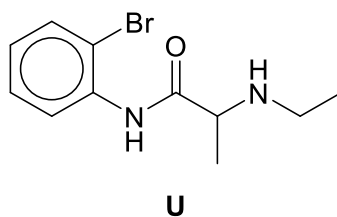
- (d) Explain why ethanoic acid cannot be used in place of hydrochloric acid for this titration.

Ethanoic acid is a weak acid and there will be no sharp increase of pH that is typically found along with the end-point, hence there is no indicator that can be used to produce a distinct colour change to identify the end-point.

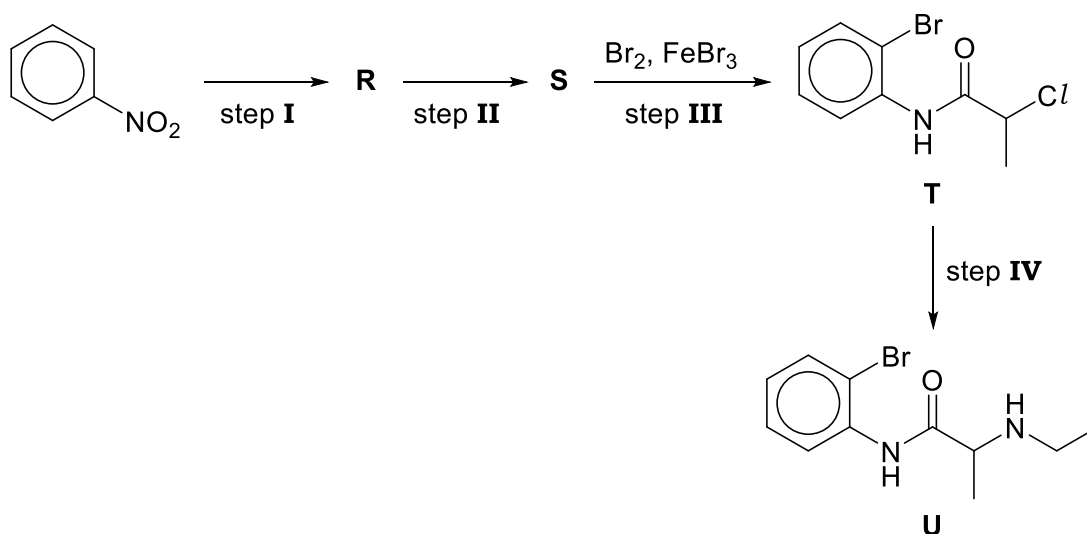
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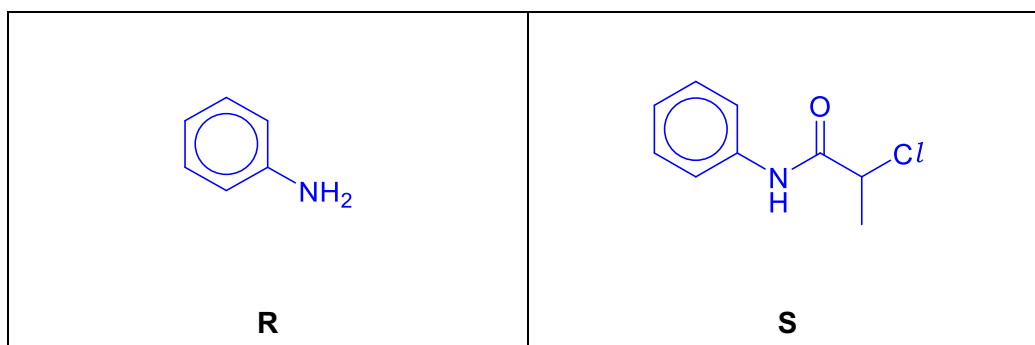
- 4 Compound **U** was developed in the drug discovery process for an anaesthetic.



- (a) The following synthetic scheme shows the synthesis of compound **U**.



- (i) Draw the structures of the organic compounds **R** and **S**.



[2]

- (ii) State the reagents and conditions for steps **I**, **II** and **IV**.

step **I**: Sn, conc. HCl, heat followed by NaOH at rt

step **II**: ClCOCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)Cl, r.t.

step **IV**: CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> in ethanol, heat in sealed tube

[3]

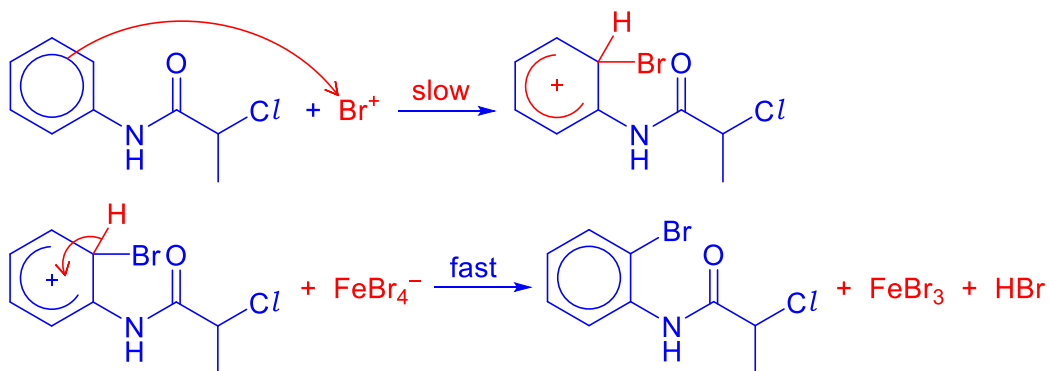
(iii) Suggest why bromination cannot be carried out in step I.

Bromination cannot be carried out in step I as the  $\text{NO}_2$  group in nitrobenzene is **3-directing**, hence the  $\text{Br}^+$  electrophile will not be directed at the 2-position to form the product.

.....[1]

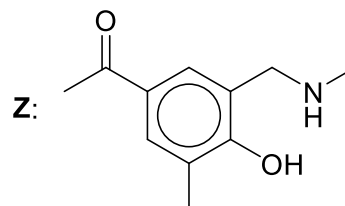
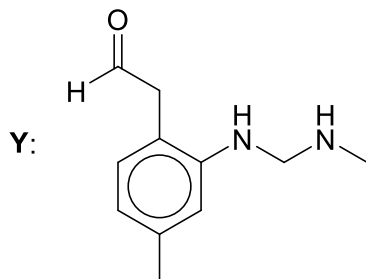
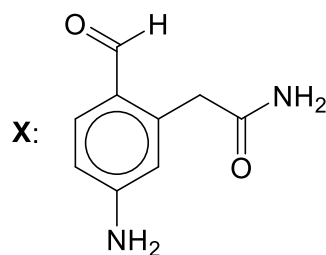
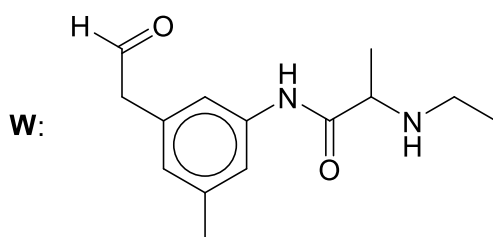
(iv) Describe the mechanism for the reaction in step III.

Type of mechanism: **Electrophilic substitution**



[3]

- (b) During the process of drug discovery, the following four compounds, **W** to **Z**, were also developed.



Describe three simple chemical tests that could be carried out in sequence to distinguish between compounds **W**, **X**, **Y** and **Z**. State the expected observations for each test.

Test 1: Add Tollens' reagent to separate samples of the 4 compounds.

.....

Observations: No ppt will be observed for Y, silver mirror for W, X and Z.

.....

Test 2: Add Fehling's solution to separate samples of W, X and Z.

.....

Observations: Brick-red ppt will be observed for W, no brick-red ppt for X and Z.

.....

Test 3: Add neutral iron(III) chloride to separate samples of compounds X and Z.

.....

Observations: Violet colouration will be observed for Z, no violet colouration for X.

.....

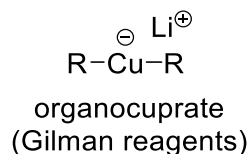
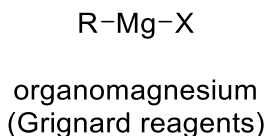
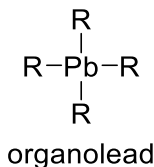
[6]

[Total: 15]

- 5 Organometallic chemistry is the study of compounds containing, and reactions involving, metal–carbon bonds. In addition, other bonds such as metal–nitrogen and metal–halogen bonds, are also of interest.

For  
Examiner's  
Use

Common examples of organometallic compounds are



where R = alkyl groups; X = Cl, Br or I

- (a) Tetraethyllead,  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_4\text{Pb}$ , is an example of an organolead compound, that for much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was the chief antiknock agent for automotive gasoline, or petrol.

- (i) State and explain the shape of the tetraethyllead molecule.

Since there are only **4 Pb–C  $\sigma$  bond pairs and no lone pairs** around the central Pb atom, tetraethyllead will be **tetrahedral** in shape. [2]

In the car engine, tetraethyllead burns to deposit solid lead and lead(II) oxide, PbO, which destroy the engine. Hence, lead scavengers such as 1,2-dibromoethane and 1,2-dichloroethane are used in conjunction with tetraethyllead, forming gaseous lead(II) bromide and lead(II) chloride in the engine instead.

- (ii) Explain why  $\text{PbCl}_2$  and  $\text{PbBr}_2$  are more volatile than PbO.

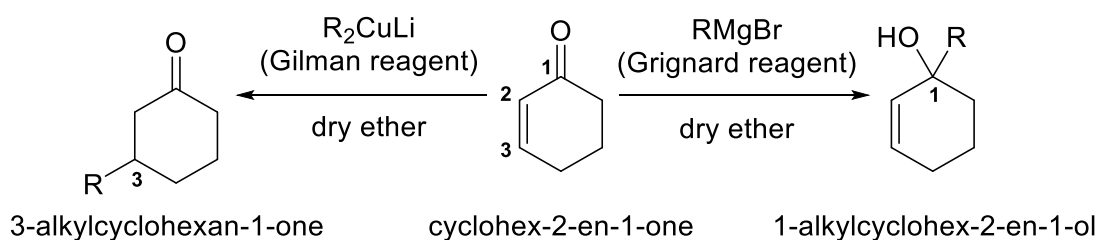
Due to the much **larger anionic radius and lower anionic charge of  $\text{Cl}^-$  and  $\text{Br}^-$  compared to  $\text{O}^{2-}$ , less energy is required to overcome the weaker ionic bonds** in  $\text{PbCl}_2$  and  $\text{PbBr}_2$  leading to **lower boiling points** compared to PbO. [2]

Organometallic compounds tend to act as carbon-based nucleophiles.

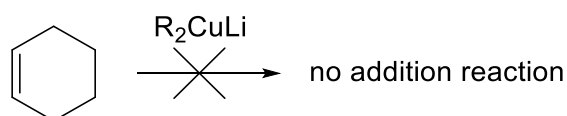
- (b) With reference to the bonding in organometallic compounds, suggest why they tend to act as carbon-based nucleophiles.

**Carbon is more electronegative than the metals. Hence the metal–carbon bond is polarised in such a way that the carbon carries the partial negative ( $\delta^-$ ) charge, hence rendering the carbon nucleophilic / Lewis basic.** [1]

Both Gilman reagents and Grignard reagents act as carbon-based nucleophiles, adding across double bonds. However, the addition product with cyclohex-2-en-1-one differs for the two reagents.



Nonetheless, Gilman reagent does not react with cyclohexene.

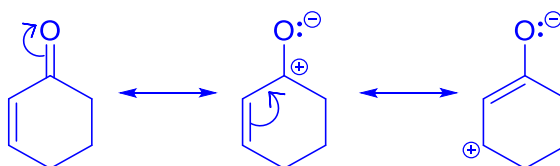


(c) (i) Explain why Gilman reagent does not react with cyclohexene.

The carbon-based **nucleophile** of Gilman reagent is **repelled** by the **electron-rich  $\pi$ -electron cloud** of the **C=C**, hence  $\text{R}_2\text{CuLi}$  does not add across C=C.

.....[1]

(ii) With the aid of a suitable diagram, explain why Gilman reagent reacts with carbon-3 of cyclohex-2-en-1-one but not carbon-2, using the concept of electronegativity and delocalisation in your answer.



Due to the **much higher electronegativity** of **oxygen** compared to carbon, and the **delocalisation of the  $\pi$ -electrons** of **C=C** into the **C=O** shown above, **carbon-3** will attain a **partial positive ( $\delta^+$ ) charge**, while **carbon-2** is **neutral**. Hence, the carbon-based **nucleophile** of Gilman reagent will **attack carbon-3**, but not carbon-2.

.....[2]

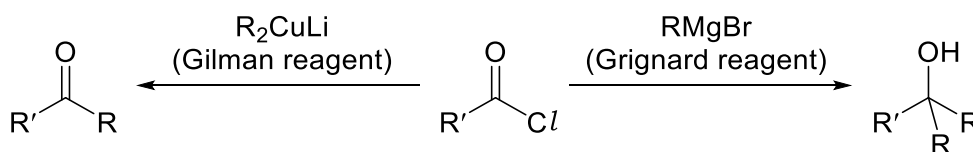


- (iii) With reference to the structure of the cyclohex-2-en-1-one and the relative polarity of the metal-carbon bonds, suggest why Gilman reagent reacts preferentially with carbon-3 of cyclohex-2-en-1-one but Grignard reagent reacts with carbon-1, the carbonyl carbon.

As carbon-3 is further away from the electronegative oxygen than carbon-1, the partial positive ( $\delta^+$ ) charge on carbon-3 is lesser than that one carbon-1. Since magnesium is less electronegative / more electropositive than copper, the carbon atom in the Mg-C bond has a larger partial negative ( $\delta^-$ ) charge than that in Cu-C. Hence, the more nucleophilic R group in Grignard reagent favours the more electrophilic carbon-1, while the less nucleophilic R group in Gilman reagent favours the less electrophilic carbon-3.

[2]

Another reaction where Gilman reagents and Grignard reagents give different product is in their reaction with acyl chlorides.



Gilman reagents react with acyl chloride to give ketones, while Grignard reagents react to give tertiary alcohols.

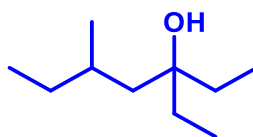
- (d) (i) State the type of reaction undergone by the acyl chloride with Gilman reagent.

Nucleophilic (acyl) substitution [1]

- (ii) The reaction with Grignard reagents involves another type of reaction. State this second type of reaction.

Nucleophilic addition [1]

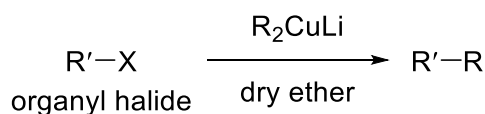
- (iii) Draw the skeletal formula of the product obtained when 3-methylpentanoyl chloride reacts with the Grignard reagent,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{MgBr}$ .



[1]

Gilman reagents are also effective nucleophiles for substitution reactions with organyl halides, in what is known as the Corey-House synthesis, as shown below. Grignard reagents, on the other hand, perform very poorly in this reaction.

For  
Examiner's  
Use



where R = methyl, 1°, 2°, 3° alkyl, aryl, alkenyl

R' = methyl, 1°, cyclic 2° alkyl, aryl, alkenyl

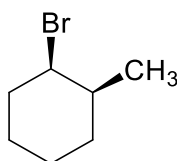
X = Br or I

(e) (i) What evidence suggest an S<sub>N</sub>2-type mechanism in the Corey-House synthesis?

Only methyl, primary and cyclic secondary alkyl halide reacts in the Corey-House synthesis, but not tertiary halide.

[1]

(ii) The S<sub>N</sub>2-type mechanism in the Corey-House synthesis can be established by using the following cyclic secondary bromide as an organyl halide substrate.

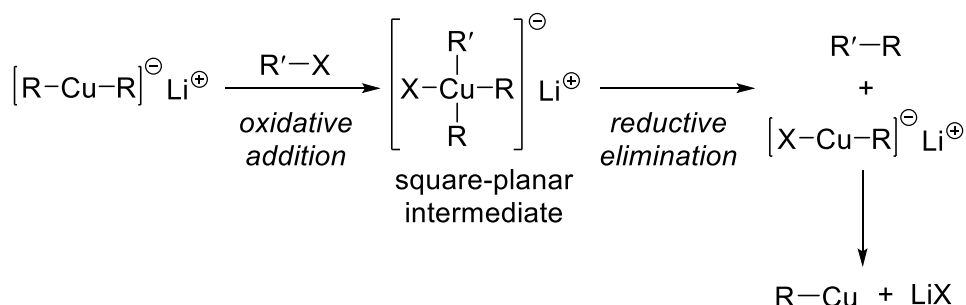


State the observation which will confirm a S<sub>N</sub>2-type mechanism.

An inversion of configuration will be observed about the C-Br α-carbon.

[1]

The Corey-House synthesis is believed to proceed via first *oxidative addition* of the organyl halide to give a square planar copper-containing intermediate, which then undergoes *reductive elimination* to provide the product, R'-R.



(f) (i) State the oxidation state of copper in

• the square-planar intermediate: ..... **+3**

•  $[\text{X}-\text{Cu}-\text{R}]^{-}$  : ..... **+1**

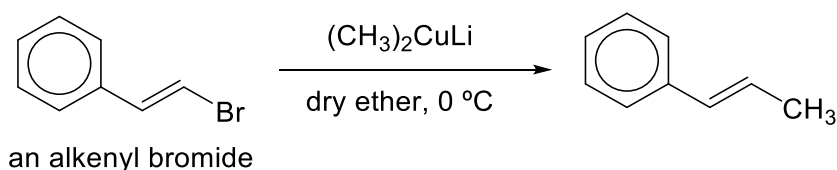
[2]

(ii) With reference to (f)(i), suggest why the second step is known as *reductive elimination*.

The second step involves the lost of two alkyl groups from the Cu centre, with decrease in oxidation state of the Cu centre by 2 units.

[2]

Unlike the reaction of organyl halides with aqueous sodium hydroxide, where aryl and alkenyl halides are unreactive, alkenyl and aryl bromide and iodide reacts readily with Gilman reagents. For example,



(g) Explain why alkenyl halides are unreactive towards aqueous sodium hydroxide.

The lone pair of electrons on the halogen is delocalised into the C=C, imparting partial double bond character to the C-Br bond, strengthening the bond, making substitution difficult.

[1]

[Total: 20]

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