



Cambridge IGCSE™

CHEMISTRY

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Paper 3 Theory (Core)

March 2021

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 80

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the March 2021 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™, Cambridge International A and AS Level components and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of **10** printed pages.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Science-Specific Marking Principles

- 1 Examiners should consider the context and scientific use of any keywords when awarding marks. Although keywords may be present, marks should not be awarded if the keywords are used incorrectly.
- 2 The examiner should not choose between contradictory statements given in the same question part, and credit should not be awarded for any correct statement that is contradicted within the same question part. Wrong science that is irrelevant to the question should be ignored.
- 3 Although spellings do not have to be correct, spellings of syllabus terms must allow for clear and unambiguous separation from other syllabus terms with which they may be confused (e.g. ethane / ethene, glucagon / glycogen, refraction / reflection).
- 4 The error carried forward (ecf) principle should be applied, where appropriate. If an incorrect answer is subsequently used in a scientifically correct way, the candidate should be awarded these subsequent marking points. Further guidance will be included in the mark scheme where necessary and any exceptions to this general principle will be noted.
- 5 'List rule' guidance

For questions that require **n** responses (e.g. State **two** reasons ...):
 - The response should be read as continuous prose, even when numbered answer spaces are provided.
 - Any response marked *ignore* in the mark scheme should not count towards **n**.
 - Incorrect responses should not be awarded credit but will still count towards **n**.
 - Read the entire response to check for any responses that contradict those that would otherwise be credited. Credit should **not** be awarded for any responses that are contradicted within the rest of the response. Where two responses contradict one another, this should be treated as a single incorrect response.
 - Non-contradictory responses after the first **n** responses may be ignored even if they include incorrect science.

6 Calculation specific guidance

Correct answers to calculations should be given full credit even if there is no working or incorrect working, **unless** the question states 'show your working'.

For questions in which the number of significant figures required is not stated, credit should be awarded for correct answers when rounded by the examiner to the number of significant figures given in the mark scheme. This may not apply to measured values.

For answers given in standard form (e.g. $a \times 10^n$) in which the convention of restricting the value of the coefficient (a) to a value between 1 and 10 is not followed, credit may still be awarded if the answer can be converted to the answer given in the mark scheme.

Unless a separate mark is given for a unit, a missing or incorrect unit will normally mean that the final calculation mark is not awarded. Exceptions to this general principle will be noted in the mark scheme.

7 Guidance for chemical equations

Multiples / fractions of coefficients used in chemical equations are acceptable unless stated otherwise in the mark scheme.

State symbols given in an equation should be ignored unless asked for in the question or stated otherwise in the mark scheme.

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Al	1
1(b)	O	1
1(c)	N	1
1(d)	Fe	1
1(e)	Ar	1

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)(i)	$B_3O_6^{3-}$ / metaborate	1
2(a)(ii)	K^+ AND SO_4^{2-}	1
2(a)(iii)	80 (mg)	1
2(a)(iv)	sodium chloride	1
2(a)(v)	bromide	1
2(b)	3 (H_2O) (1) 3 (HCl) (1)	2
2(c)	number of electrons: 36 (1) number of protons: 38 (1) number of neutrons: 49 (1)	3
2(d)(i)	cancer treatment / tracer (e.g. for thyroid function)	1
2(d)(ii)	source of energy / energy production	1

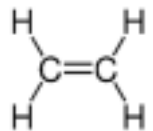
Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)(i)	boiling point of chlorine: any values between -100 and 10 ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) (inclusive of these values) (1) density of fluorine: any values between 0.20 and 1.55 (g/cm^3) (inclusive of these values) (1)	2
3(a)(ii)	increases	1
3(a)(iii)	liquid (1) 130 ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) is between the melting and boiling point / the melting point is lower than 130 ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) AND the boiling point is above 130 ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) (1)	2
3(b)(i)	2,7	1
3(b)(ii)	the number of electrons is one more than the number of protons / it has 9 protons and 10 electrons (1)	1
3(c)	0.48(0) (g)	1

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	values between 28–30 s (inclusive of these values)	1
4(b)	initial gradient is shallower and line starts at 0-0 (1) final volume below 25 cm^3 hydrogen AND levelling off (1)	2
4(c)	higher temperature: faster / increases (1) magnesium ribbon: slower / decreases (1)	2

Question	Answer	Marks
4(d)	calcium chloride (1) carbon dioxide (1) water (1) bubbles / fizzing / calcium carbonate becomes smaller / tube gets warm (1)	4

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)	1 mark each for any 3 of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not conduct electricity / poor conductor of electricity / insulator • does not conduct heat / poor conductor of heat • brittle / not malleable / not ductile • not sonorous / dull sound when hit • not lustrous / not shiny • has (relatively) low melting point / low boiling point 	3
5(b)	in underground deposits / sulfide ores / volcanoes	1
5(c)(i)	C + (2)S on lower line to left AND CS ₂ on upper line to right (1)	1
5(c)(ii)	the product energy level is above the reactant energy level	1
5(d)	separation: particles close together / small spaces between the particles (1) motion: limited (movement) / restricted (movement) / sliding over each other / random (motion) (1)	2

Question	Answer	Marks
5(e)	1 mark each for any 3 of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evaporation of hydrogen sulfide from the cotton wool / hydrogen sulfide molecules escape from solution • diffusion • molecules in (constant) movement / molecules collide / molecules travel • (movement of) molecules is random / in every direction • molecules spread out / molecules mix • molecules hit filter paper • (molecules spread) from higher concentration to lower concentration 	3
5(f)(i)	(chemical) weathering / ironwork corrodes	1
5(f)(ii)	food preservation / food preservative	1

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)(i)	circle around COOH group	1
6(a)(ii)	ethanoic acid	1
6(a)(iii)	$C_5H_8O_3$	1
6(a)(iv)	has a C=C double bond	1
6(b)	 <p>C=C bond and 2 carbon atoms and no other types of atom (1) rest of molecule correct (1)</p>	2
6(c)(i)	idea of breaking down large hydrocarbons to smaller hydrocarbons (using heat)	1
6(c)(ii)	heat / high temperature (1) catalyst (1)	2

Question	Answer	Marks
6(d)	poly(ethene) (1) addition (1)	2
6(e)	filling landfill sites / gets stuck in animals digestive system / animals get stuck in the plastic / blocks drains / floats on surface of water / stops light getting to organisms in sea (or rivers/ lake)	1

Question	Answer	Marks
7(a)	sodium is too reactive / sodium is high in the electrochemical series / it takes too high a temperature to extract sodium using carbon	1
7(b)(i)	graphite / platinum	1
7(b)(ii)	'square' in middle of diagram labelled anode	1
7(b)(iii)	the sodium floats on top of the sodium chloride	1
7(c)	negative electrode: hydrogen (1) bubbles / fizzing / colourless gas (1) positive electrode: chlorine (1) bubbles / fizzing / green gas / yellow-green gas (1)	4
7(d)	1 mark each for any 2 of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sodium is soft / not strong / more malleable / more ductile • sodium has low density • sodium has (relatively) low melting point 	2
7(e)(i)	sodium + hydrogen → sodium hydride	1

Question	Answer	Marks
7(e)(ii)	so that sodium does not react with water / sodium reacts with water	
7(e)(iii)	the iron oxide has lost oxygen	1
7(f)	yellow (1)	1

Question	Answer	Marks
8(a)	bonding pair of electrons between each H and N AND no other electrons on H (1) 2 non-bonded electrons on N (1)	2
8(b)	ammonium chloride (1)	1
8(c)	red / pink to yellow (1)	1
8(d)	168 (2 marks) if 2 marks not scored, 1 mark for : (16 × 1) = 16 OR (2 × 16) = 32 (on the appropriate line)	2
8(e)	makes plants grow faster / increases yield	1