

Section I

Total Marks (75)

Part A

Total marks (15)

Attempt Questions 1-15

Allow about 30 minutes for this part

INSTRUCTIONS

Use the multiple choice answer sheet on page 6.

Select the alternative A, B, C or D that best answers the question. Fill in the response oval completely.

Sample $2+4=$ (A) 2 (B) 6 (C) 8 (D) 9

A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D ☐

If you think you have made a mistake, put a cross through the incorrect answer and fill in the new answer.

A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D ☐

If you change your mind and have crossed out what you consider to be the correct answer, then indicate this by writing the word *correct* and drawing an arrow as follows:

A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D ☐

correct

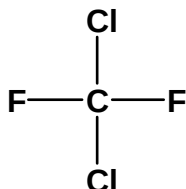
1. Which of these substances is detectable using AAS?

- (A) Scandium
- (B) Sulfate
- (C) Sulfur
- (D) Sulfur dioxide

Outcome(s):H4

Ans : A

2.



Which is the correct systematic name for the above structure?

- (A) dichlorofluoromethane
- (B) dichlorodifluoromethane
- (C) 1,1-difluoro-1,1-dichloromethane
- (D) 2,4-dichloro-1,3-difluoromethane

Outcome(s):H9

Ans : B

3. Fritz Haber and many other chemists worldwide were actively working to solve the problem of making ammonia by direct synthesis. What was the reason for this great interest ammonia?

- (A) Ammonia was unsurpassed as a coolant in refrigerators.
- (B) Ammonia was essential for making high explosives for World War II.
- (C) Ammonia was a very effective cleaning agent, but too expensive for household use.
- (D) Ammonia was a possible solution to a projected global problem of soil infertility.

Outcome(s):H4

Ans : D

4. Which metal ion cannot be identified by a flame test?

- (A) $\text{Ba}^{2+}_{(\text{aq})}$
- (B) $\text{Ca}^{2+}_{(\text{aq})}$
- (C) $\text{Cu}^{2+}_{(\text{aq})}$
- (D) $\text{Pb}^{2+}_{(\text{aq})}$

Outcome(s):H4

Ans : D

5. A fruit cannery factory discharges untreated wastes, consisting largely of rinse water and fruit pulp, into a nearby stream. What effect will this have on the water?
- (A) The level of dissolved oxygen will increase.
 - (B) Turbidity would decrease
 - (C) The biochemical oxygen demand will increase.
 - (D) The hardness of the water will increase.

Outcome(s):H4

Ans : C

6. Which oxide does not produce an acid in water?

- (A) N_2O
- (B) NO_2
- (C) SO_2
- (D) SO_3

Outcome(s):H5

Ans : A

7. A certain solution has ten times more hydrogen ion than another solution of $\text{pH} = 8$. What is the pH of the more acidic solution?

- (A) 0.8
- (B) 4
- (C) 7
- (D) 9

Outcome(s):H13

Ans : D

8. 10 mL of a 0.1 mol L^{-1} hydrochloric acid solution is added to 20 mL of a 0.1 mol L^{-1} nitric acid solution. What is the pH of the mixture?

- (A) 1
- (B) 0.5
- (C) -0.5
- (D) 2

Outcome(s):H13

Ans : A

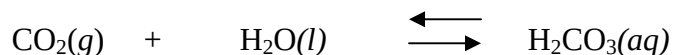
9. What volume of carbon dioxide (measured at 25°C & 100kPa) is formed from the reaction of 25.0 g calcium carbonate with excess hydrochloric acid?

- (A) 24.79 L
- (B) 3.1 L
- (C) 12.4 L
- (D) 6.2 L

Outcome(s):H10

Ans : D

10. When carbon dioxide is dissolved in water the following equilibrium occurs:



The process is exothermic. What happens to the solubility of carbon dioxide if the solution is heated?

- (A) increases
- (B) decreases
- (C) remains constant, solubility is only affected by pH
- (D) increases then decreases slightly.

Outcome(s):H8

Ans : B

11. How is ethylene produced industrially?

- (A) extracted from crude oil
- (B) fractional distillation of crude oil
- (C) cracking of the low molecular weight fraction of crude oil
- (D) fermentation of glucose

Outcome(s):H13

Ans : C

12. Low density polyethylene is produced using an organic peroxide initiator. Given below is a randomly numbered list of the steps involved in its production:

1. Monomer radicals react with doubly bonded carbon atom of another molecule
2. Free radical organic peroxide initiator react with the doubly bonded carbon atom in a monomer
3. Organic peroxide splits to form free radical
4. Activated monomer radicals form
5. Chain growth stops if free radicals combine together
6. Chain builds and lengthen

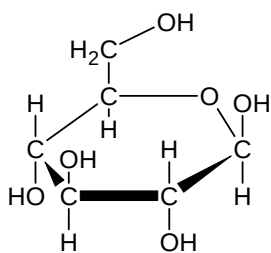
Choose the correct sequence from among the choices given below

- (A) $2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 6$
- (B) $3 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 5$
- (C) $4 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 5$
- (D) $3 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 6$

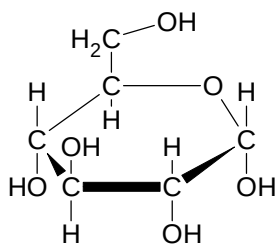
Outcome(s):H9, H13

Ans : B

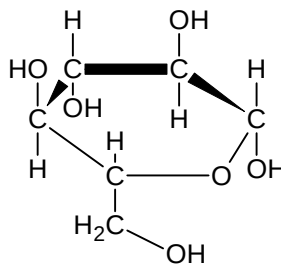
13. Cellulose is a biopolymer composed of glucose units. Choose the glucose structure below required to form a strand of cellulose with 6 glucose units:



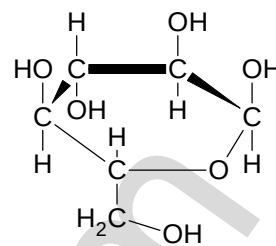
Structure 1



Structure 2



Structure 3



Structure 4

- (A) 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4
 (B) 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3
 (C) 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3
 (D) 2, 4, 2, 4, 2, 4

Outcome(s):H9, H10,H13

Ans : C

- 14.The molar heat of combustion of ethanol is 1364 kJ mol^{-1} . How much water at 20°C can be heated to boiling (100°C) if 20.0 g of ethanol is completely combusted to carbon dioxide and water.

- (A) 2.02 g
 (B) 2.02 kg
 (C) 20.2 g
 (D) 20.2 kg

Outcome(s):H9,H10,H7

Ans : B

- 15.A student undertook a first hand investigation to determine the relative reactivities of cyclohexane and cyclohexene. Which conditions are appropriate for this experiment?

Conditions	A	B	C	D
Reagent used	bromine water	chlorine gas	bromine water	ethanol
To increase validity	protect from light	control the temperature	repeat the experiment	repeat the experiment
Result observed	decolourised	odourless gas released	purple solution formed	sweet smelling gas released

Outcome(s):H6, H11,H12,H13,H14

Ans : A

Multiple Choice Answer Sheet

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. | A ● | B ○ | C ○ | D ○ |
| 2. | A ○ | B ● | C ○ | D ○ |
| 3. | A ○ | B ○ | C ○ | D ● |
| 4. | A ○ | B ○ | C ○ | D ● |
| 5. | A ○ | B ○ | C ● | D ○ |
| 6. | A ● | B ○ | C ○ | D ○ |
| 7. | A ○ | B ○ | C ● | D ○ |
| 8. | A ● | B ○ | C ○ | D ○ |
| 9. | A ○ | B ○ | C ○ | D ● |
| 10. | A ○ | B ● | C ○ | D ○ |
| 11. | A ○ | B ○ | C ● | D ○ |
| 12. | A ○ | B ● | C ○ | D ○ |
| 13. | A ○ | B ○ | C ● | D ○ |
| 14. | A ○ | B ● | C ○ | D ○ |
| 15. | A ● | B ○ | C ○ | D ○ |

Section I (continued)

Part B - 60 marks

Attempt Questions 16 -27

Allow about 1 hour and 45 minutes for this part

Answer the questions in the spaces provided

Show all relevant working in questions involving calculations

Question 16 (6 marks)

MARKS

The aim of a Prac Test was the identification of four unknown solutions using four test solutions. A student records these test results (R = reaction; NR = no reaction) ...

		Unknown Solutions			
		W	X	Y	Z
Test Solutions	HNO ₃	NR	NR	NR	R
	H ₂ SO ₄	R	R	NR	R*
	Ba(NO ₃) ₂	NR	NR	R*	NR
	AgNO ₃	R	R*	NR	NR

The student was told that the unknowns were potassium sulfate, barium chloride, sodium carbonate and calcium chloride.

- (a) Identify the compounds which match-up with unknowns W, X, Y and Z.

3

Outcomes – H8, 10

Answers

W = calcium chloride

X = barium chloride

Y = potassium sulfate

Z = sodium carbonate

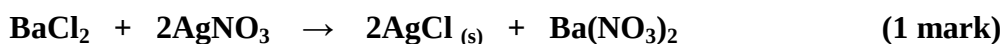
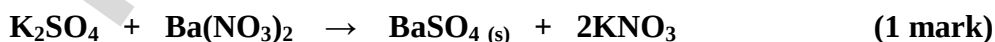
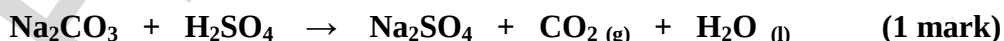
4 correct = 3 marks

2 correct = 2 marks

1 correct = 1 mark

- (b) Write balanced chemical equations for the three asterisked reactions (R*) in the table.

3



Question 17 (5 marks)

Outcomes – H4, 10

The *National Australian Standard* for sulfur in petrol is 500 ppm maximum.

- (a) Calculate the mass of sulfur in one litre of petrol weighing 714 grams.
(Assume 500 ppm sulfur)

1

$$\frac{500 \text{ Sulfur}}{1,000,000 \text{ petrol}} = \frac{x \text{ grams Sulfur}}{714 \text{ g petrol}} ; x = 0.357 \text{ g Sulfur} \quad (1 \text{ mark})$$

- (b) Calculate the volume of sulfur dioxide produced by the complete combustion of one litre of petrol at 100 kPa and 25°C.

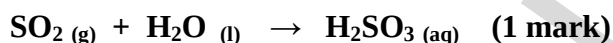
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$$\text{moles of Sulfur} = \text{moles of SO}_2 = m \div M = 0.357 \text{ g} \div 32.07 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 0.0111 \text{ mol} \quad (1 \text{ mark})$$

$$\text{volume of SO}_2 = (n) (\text{molar volume}) = (0.0111 \text{ mol}) (24.79 \text{ L mol}^{-1}) = 0.276 \text{ L} \quad (1 \text{ mark})$$

- (c) Write a balanced chemical equation showing sulfur dioxide producing acid rain and name the acid formed.

2



Sulfurous acid (1 mark)

Question 18 (6 marks)

A Year 9 student does a research project testing the BOD of a polluted stream near his home. He writes this entry in his science journal...

I got a bucketful of stream water and carried it home. It looked a bit murky so I decided to filter it through a plastic funnel using paper towel for filter paper. It worked well and cleared up the water.

I measured out exactly one litre of stream water and poured it into a 2 litre beaker. I then measured the dissolved oxygen using a borrowed oxygen-sensitive electrode and recorded the reading.

I then placed the beaker on a shelf underneath the awning on the back veranda.. A week later I measured the dissolved oxygen again and recorded the reading.

- (a) The procedural errors made by the student will greatly affect the validity of the BOD result. Identify two errors made and provide the correct procedures he should have followed.

5

Outcomes – H12

Answers

Student's Error	Correct Procedure	(a)
Filtered water sample	BOD samples should never be filtered.	
Sample uncapped	BOD samples must be capped.	
Sample exposed to light	BOD samples must be stored in the dark	
Sample stored at unregulated temperature	BOD samples must be stored at 20°C	
Sample stored for one week	BOD samples must be stored for 5 days	

► Two errors & corrections @ 1 mark = **2 marks**

- (b) The student suspects that the polluted stream is subject to eutrophication. Identify two (2) chemical species which he could test for as proof of eutrophication. **2**

Nitrogen (nitrate) and phosphorus (phosphate)

- (c) The student decides to test the stream water for total dissolved solids without using a TDS meter. Describe a simple test procedure he should follow and the data he should collect and record **2**

Procedure: *Filter the water sample and slowly evaporate a known sample volume or mass.*
(1 mark) ► ***Must include filtration.***

Data: *Collect and record the water sample's original volume (or mass) and the mass of the dried residue after evaporation.* (1 mark)

- (d) High tech microscopic membrane filters are a means of cleaning up some polluted water.

- (i) Identify the composition of the membranes, i.e. what are they made of? **1**

The membranes are made of polymers.

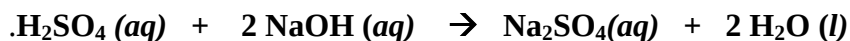
- (ii) Membrane filters can capture germs but not heavy metal ions. Describe the physical basis of how these filters work. **1**

The physical basis of membrane filtration is the microscopic pore structure

Question 19 (3 marks)**Outcome: H10**

In a titration to find the concentration of sulfuric acid solution, 28.6 mL of 0.176 mol L⁻¹ sodium hydroxide solution was required to neutralise 25.0 mL of sulfuric acid solution. Calculate the concentration of the sulfuric acid solution in mol L⁻¹.

3



$$\text{No. of mole NaOH} = 0.0286 \times 0.176 = 5.03 \times 10^{-3}$$

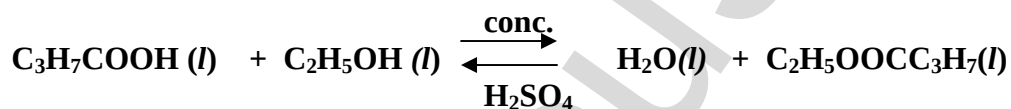
$$\text{No. of mole H}_2\text{SO}_4 = \frac{1}{2} \times 5.03 \times 10^{-3} = 2.52 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4] = \frac{2.52 \times 10^{-3}}{0.025} = 0.101 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$$

Question 20 (3 marks)**Outcome :H9**

- (a) Describe using a balanced chemical equation the formation of an ester from the reaction of C₃H₇COOH (l) with C₂H₅OH (l)

2



Criterion/criteria	Mark
Balanced equation	1
Conditions (double arrow), conc H ₂ SO ₄ as catalyst	1

- (b) Name the ester.

1

ethyl butanoate**Question 21** (4 marks)**Outcome: H3**

Identify examples of naturally occurring acid and base.. In the table below record their names and their chemical formulae

ACID	Chemical Formula
.hydrochloric	HCl
BASE	Chemical Formula
. sodium hydrogen carbonate	NaHCO ₃

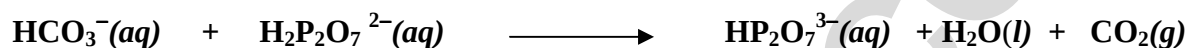
Question 22 (3 marks)**Outcome:H8**

Some commercial baking powders use sodium pyrophosphate ($\text{Na}_2\text{H}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$) and sodium hydrogen carbonate (NaHCO_3) to make cakes rise when cooked.

The reaction that occurs can be described by the following equation (states excluded)



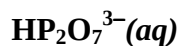
- (a) Write the net ionic equation for this reaction, including states. 1



- (b) From this net ionic equation, write the formula for a species behaving as a Bronsted-Lowry acid. 1



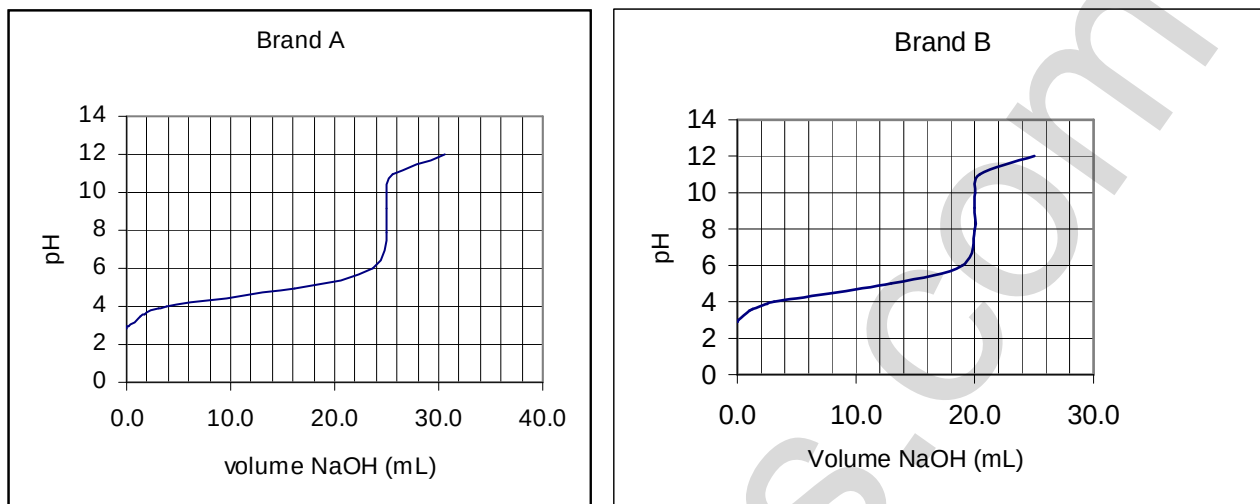
- (c) What is the conjugate base of the acid species identified in (b)? 1



Question 23 (7 marks)

Outcomes: H12,H13

An investigation to determine the concentration of acetic acid in two brands of domestic vinegar was carried out. Standard sodium hydroxide solution was used to titrate equal volumes of Brand A and Brand B. The results of these titrations are shown below.



(a) Explain the procedure that can generate these titration curves

3

These curves could be obtained by adding the sodium hydroxide solution (contained in a burette) incrementally (eg. 1 mL increments) to the vinegar solution contained in a beaker. A magnetic stirrer mixes the acid and base solutions. The beaker contains a pH probe attached to a datalogger* which measures pH. The data logger is connected to a computer which displays the titration curve. The pH probe may also be connected to a pH meter and measurements of pH are recorded after each small addition of the base (eg., after 1 mL) A graph is drawn from these measurements.

(b) Identify the solution used to rinse the pipette before its final use

1

vinegar solution

(c) Which brand (A or B) had the higher concentration of acetic acid? Give a reason.

1

Brand A had the higher concentration of acetic acid as it required a greater volume of NaOH solution to react with the same volume of vinegar

(d)) Is the salt produced by this reaction acidic, basic or neutral? Write a net ionic equation to support your answer.

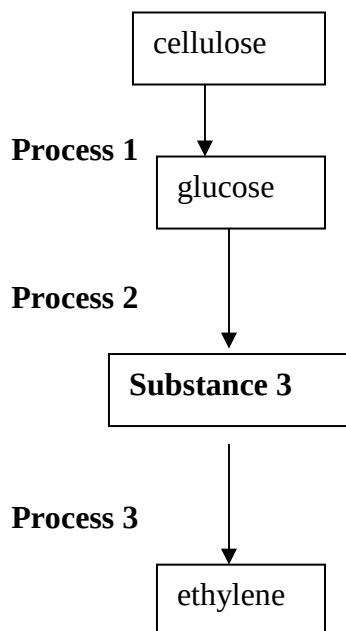
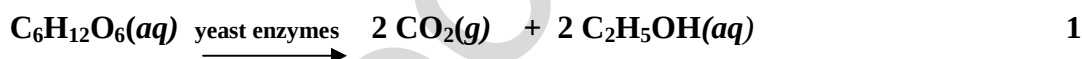
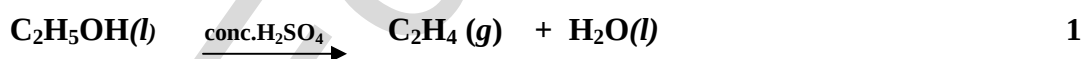
2

basic salt



Question 24 (5 marks)**Outcome(s):** H13, H5 H1, H3,H4,H9

(a) Examine the following flowchart showing the conversion of cellulose to ethylene .

(i) Name substance 3.....**ethanol**..... **1**(ii) Write a balanced formula equation for **Process 2**.(iii) Write a balanced formula equation , including the catalyst for **Process 3**

(b) Discuss the potential of cellulose as a raw material for building petrochemicals in terms of its structure and in terms of the energy requirement of the process detailed in (a) above

2**Sample Answer:**

Cellulose contains the basic carbon-chain structures needed to build petrochemicals The above scheme is a multi-step process making use of readily available cellulose in the form of biomass . However, each step of the production requires large amount of energy especially the separation of the ethanol from the fermentation mixture. At the present time therefore, while fossil fuels are still relatively cheaply available, the use of cellulose may not be viable yet.

Criterion/criteria	Mark
discussion on the structure of cellulose being suitable as starting material	1
energy requirement of process	1

Question 25 (2 marks)**Outcomes: H13**

Write the details on the property and use of the common polymer, poly(vinyl chloride).

3

Polymer name (systematic)	Common monomer name	Polymer property	Polymer use related to property
<i>poly(chloroethene) or poly(ethenylchloride)</i>	vinyl chloride	<i>does not conduct electricity</i>	<i>used as an electrical insulator</i>

Criterion/criteria	Mark
Polymer name	1
Polymer property and use	1

Question 26 (3 marks)**Outcome(s): H13, H6**

Compare a named transuranic element and a named commercial radioisotope in terms of their production

4

Transuranic elements such as neptunium-239. is produced by bombarding uranium-238 with neutrons produced by the nuclear fission of uranium-235. Final isotopes produced have relatively long half-lives. Similarly, commercial radioisotopes are produced by the bombardment of elements with neutrons from a uranium fission reactor or by using a cyclotron particle accelerator producing isotopes with relatively shorter half-lives., for example, cobalt-60, an isotope used in the treatment of cancer, is produced by the neutron bombardment of cobalt-59.

Criterion/criteria	Mark
Production of transuranic elements and example	2
Production of commercial radioisotope and example	2

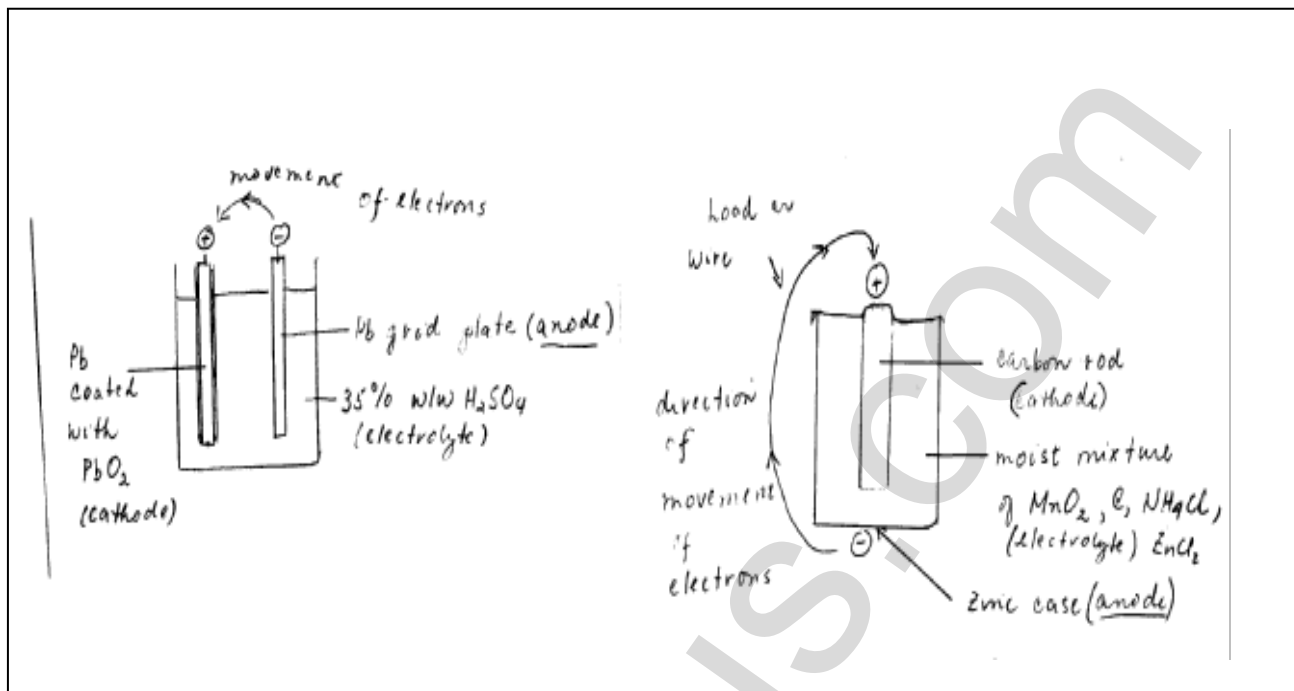
Question 27 (9 marks)

Outcome(s): H13, H8, H16

(a) Draw a simple, neat well-labelled diagram of a dry cell OR a lead-acid cell. In your diagram, you should indicate :

4

- the direction of flow of electrons
- the cathode, the anode and the electrolyte



MARKS

(b) Evaluate the dry cell or the lead acid cell in comparison to ONE of the following:

- ☐ button cell
- ☐ fuel cell
- ☐ vanadium redox cell
- ☐ lithium cell
- ☐ liquid junction photovoltaic device

in terms of chemistry and environmental impact

5

Answer

Battery	Chemistry	Impact on the environment
lead acid battery	Anode: $\text{Pb(s)} + \text{SO}_4^{2-} \rightarrow \text{PbSO}_4(\text{s}) + 2\text{e}^-$ Cathode: $\text{PbO}_2(\text{s}) + 2\text{e}^- + 4\text{H}^+ + \text{SO}_4^{2-} \rightarrow \text{PbSO}_4(\text{s}) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O(l)}$	acid waste and lead metal can pollute the environment, lead however, can be recycled
Vanadium redox cell	Anode: $\text{V}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{V}^{3+} + \text{e}^-$ Cathode: $\text{VO}_2^+ + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{VO}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	may be used to store other forms of energy, vanadium is safe and non-polluting since the vanadium solution may be recycled indefinitely

The lead-acid battery has a solid oxidant (PbO_2), a solid reductant (Pb) with a common solid redox product, PbSO_4 which adheres to the electrode. This makes the lead-acid battery rechargeable by simply applying the appropriate potential on the electrodes. The vanadium redox battery is also rechargeable simply by replenishing the anolyte (V^{2+}) solutions and the catholyte (VO_2^+) solutions. It is important that the oxidant and the reductant do not mix. This necessitates a separate compartment for each solutions, making it less compact than the lead acid battery. It also requires a pump to circulate the solutions.

Overall, the lead storage battery delivers the required voltage but its use is disadvantaged by the lead which can pollute the environment. On the other hand, the vanadium storage battery is safe and environmentally sound but still in its developmental stage.

Criteria	Mark
Chemistry and impact on environment	4
Overall evaluation	1

Section II

25 marks

Attempt Question 28

Allow about 45 minutes for this section.

Answer the question in a writing booklet provided

Show all relevant working in questions involving calculations

Question 29

MARKS

- (a) (i) Outline two uses of sulfuric acid in industry

2

Criterion/Criteria	Mark
Outlines two uses of sulfuric acid	2

Sample answer:

- o manufacture of fertiliser such ammonium sulfate
- o manufacture of viscose rayon and other synthetic fibres

- (ii) Describe, using examples and equations the reactions of sulfuric acid acting as:

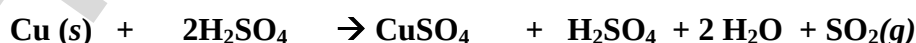
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- (1) an oxidising agent
- (2) a dehydrating agent

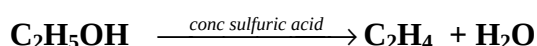
Criterion/Criteria	Mark
2 descriptions and two equations	4
2 descriptions and one equation or two equations and one description	3
2 descriptions or 2 equations or 1 description and one equation	2
one description and one equation	1

Sample Answer:

- (1) concentrated sulfuric acid act as an oxidising agent when it reacts with metals.



- (2) concentrated sulfuric acid can be used to remove water from compounds eg. to convert ethanol into ethene for the plastic industry.



- (b) The dissociation of nitrosyl chloride into nitric oxide and chlorine takes place according to the equation:



Varying amounts of the three gases were placed in a container and allowed to come to equilibrium at two different temperatures. The equilibrium concentrations of the three gases obtained are tabulated below.

Temperature, °C	Concentrations (mol L ⁻¹)		
	NOCl	NO	Cl ₂
230	2.33 x 10 ⁻³	1.46 x 10 ⁻³	1.15 x 10 ⁻²
465	3.68 x 10 ⁻⁴	7.63 x 10 ⁻³	2.14 x 10 ⁻⁴

- (i) Calculate the equilibrium constant K, for the reaction at 230⁰ C . Show relevant working.

3

Criterion/Criteria	Mark
Correct K expression , correct answer with relevant working	3
Correct K expression and correct answer with no relevant working	2
Correct K expression or correct answer with no relevant working	1

Sample answer:

$$K = \frac{[\text{NO}]^2[\text{Cl}_2]}{[\text{NOCl}]^2}$$

$$= \frac{(1.46 \times 10^{-3}) (1.15 \times 10^{-2})}{(2.33 \times 10^{-3})^2}$$

$$K = 4.52 \times 10^{-3}$$

- (ii) The equilibrium constant at 465 °C is 9.20 x 10⁻². Does the different value for the equilibrium constant indicate that the reaction is endothermic or exothermic? Explain your answer.

Criterion/Criteria	Mark(s)
Endothermic and correct explanation for variation in K	2
Endothermic	1

- (iii) The energy change involved in the above reaction is 38kJ per mole of nitrosyl chloride decomposed. Rewrite the equation for the dissociation of one mole of nitrosyl chloride and complete the description of the reaction by specifying ΔH (sign and magnitude) for the reaction you have written.

Criterion/Criteria	Mark(s)
Correct equation with ΔH included	1

- (c) Describe two potential environmental issues associated with the extraction of sulfur from mineral deposits. 2

Sample Answer:

Sulfur is easily oxidised to SO_2 or reduced to H_2S – both are serious air pollutants. Water used may have dissolved impurities in the deposit and needs to be re-used not discharged into the environment. Earth subsidence is possible as it is difficult to backfill with this mining method (Frasch). Thermal pollution can result from superheated steam released into local waterways..

- (d) Describe the reactant conditions necessary for the production of SO_3 from SO_2 . 3

Criterion/Criteria	Mark(s)
correct catalyst, temperature range and pressure	3
2 correct of catalyst or temperature range or pressure	2
correct catalyst or temperature range or pressure	1

Sample answer:

Reactant conditions necessary for the production of SO_2 to SO_3 include porous pellets of vanadium (V) oxide, V_2O_5 as a catalyst; 400 – 600 $^{\circ}C$ for a good yield at a reasonable rate and 1-2 atm of pressure as high yields are obtained without the need of high pressure

- (e) Explain the difference between galvanic cells and electrolytic cells in terms of energy requirement.

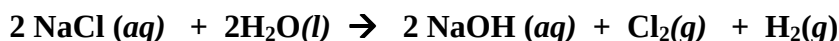
Sample Answer:

A galvanic cell is one in which stored chemical energy is converted into electrical energy – energy is spontaneously liberated. In an electrolytic cell – electrical energy is supplied (or added) to cause a chemical change.

- (f) (i) Write the full formulae equation for the production of sodium hydroxide from sodium chloride.

1

Criterion/Criteria	Mark(s)
correct equation, no states required	1



- (ii) The membrane process is one electrolytic method used to extract sodium hydroxide from sodium chloride. Describe the membrane process and explain, in terms of environmental considerations, why it is the industrially preferred method of extraction.

Criterion/Criteria	Mark(s)
2 environmental considerations	2
composition of the membrane	1
function of the membrane	1
anode and cathode correct/ solutions or electrodes	1
4 of the above	5
3 of the above	4
2 of the above	3
1 of the above	2
	1

Sample Answer:

In the membrane process of electrolysis used to extract sodium hydroxide, the anode is titanium and sodium chloride flows through the anode compartment. The cathode is steel mesh and water flows through the cathode compartment. The anode and cathode are separated by a water – impermeable membrane made from synthetic polymers such as *Teflon*. The special membrane allows sodium ion to pass but not hydroxide or chloride ions. This prevents the contamination of the sodium hydroxide. This method is rapidly replacing the mercury and diaphragm processes. It produces a much purer solution. Asbestos, which is a known carcinogen, is used in the diaphragm process.. A problem associated with the mercury process includes possible loss from the process, to the environment, of mercury which can be toxic.

END OF TEST