



A-Level Chemistry

Formation of Coloured Ions

Mark Scheme

Time available: 60 minutes

Marks available: 56 marks

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Mark schemes

1.

- (a) **M1** absorb (some) wavelengths/frequencies/colours/energies of (visible) light
*wavelengths/frequencies/colours/energies of (visible) light only
 needed once in the answer
 Allow absorption of a photon of light NOT uv light*

1

- M2** to promote/excite electrons in d-orbitals
*Allow d-subshell / d-energy level / d-electrons Reference to 'd' can
 appear anywhere in the answer*

1

- M3** remaining/complementary wavelengths/frequencies/colours/energies of
 (visible) light reflected/transmitted (to give colour seen)
NOT emissions/emitting or 'give out'

1

- (b) **M1** $(\Delta)E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$
Allow in two stages / expressed in words

1

- M2** 490×10^{-9}
M2 for conversion

1

- M3** $= (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times \frac{3.00 \times 10^8}{490 \times 10^{-9}}) = 4.06 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$
*Correct answer scores 3 marks
 4.06×10^{-19} scores 2 marks (no M2)
 $9.75 \times 10^{-32} = 1 \text{ mark (M2)}$*

1

- (c) **M1** **measure** absorbance for (a range of) known concentrations
Insist on description of taking measurements

1

- M2** plot graph absorbance v concentration
Allow concentration v absorbance

1

- M3** read value of concentration for the measured absorbance from this graph
*If no M1, must mention both variables
 Need to describe HOW they use the graph*

1

(d) **M1** amount of iron in each tablet = $4.66 \times 10^{-3} \times \frac{250}{1000}$ (= 0.001165 mol)

1

M2 mass of iron in each tablet = $4.66 \times 10^{-3} \times \frac{250}{1000} \times 55.8 = 0.0650 \text{ g} = 65 \text{ mg}$

Correct answer = 2 marks

Allow M2 for (M1 $\times$ 55.8 $\times$ 1000)

1

[11]

2.

(a) $\Delta E = h\nu$

Allow = hf

1

$$\nu = \Delta E / h = 2.84 \times 10^{-19} / 6.63 \times 10^{-34} = 4.28 \times 10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1} / \text{Hz}$$

Allow $4.3 \times 10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1} / \text{Hz}$

Answer must be in the range:

$$4.28 - 4.30 \times 10^{14}$$

1

(b) (One colour of) light is absorbed (to excite the electron)

If light emitted, CE = 0

1

The remaining colour / frequency / wavelength / energy is transmitted (through the solution)

Allow light reflected is the colour that we see.

1

(c) Bigger

1

Blue light would be absorbed

OR light that has greater energy than red light would be absorbed

OR higher frequency (of light absorbed / blue light) leads to higher ΔE

Can only score M2 if M1 is correct.

1

(d) Any **three** from:

- (Identity of the) metal
- Charge (on the metal) / oxidation state / charge on complex
- (Identity of the) ligands
- Co-ordination number / number of ligands
- Shape

3 max

[9]

3.

(a) Orange dichromate

Allow max 2 for three correct colours not identified to species but in correct order

1

Changes to purple / green / ruby / red-violet / violet Chromium(III)

(Note green complex can be $[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5\text{Cl}]^{2+}$ etc)

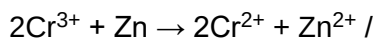
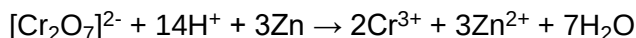
Do not allow green with another colour

1

That changes further to blue Chromium(II)

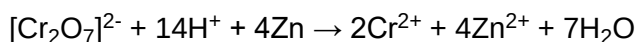
Allow max 1 for two correct colours not identified but in correct order

1



Ignore any further reduction of Cr^{2+}

1



Ignore additional steps e.g. formation of CrO_4^{2-}

1

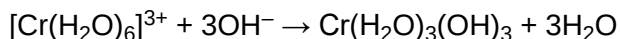
(b) Green precipitate

1

(Dissolves to form a) green solution

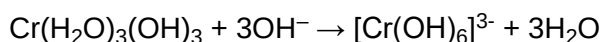
Solution can be implied if 'dissolves' stated

1



Penalise $\text{Cr}(\text{OH})_3$ once only

1



Allow $[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+} + 6\text{OH}^- \rightarrow [\text{Cr}(\text{OH})_6]^{3-} + 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Allow formation of $[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{OH})_4]^-$ and $[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})(\text{OH})_5]^{2-}$ in balanced equations

Ignore state symbols, mark independently

1

(c) (ligand) substitution / replacement / exchange

Allow nucleophilic substitution

1

The energy levels/gaps of the d electrons are different (for each complex)

Ignore any reference to emission of light

1

So a different wavelength/frequency/colour/energy of light is absorbed (when d electrons are excited)

OR light is absorbed and a different wavelength/frequency/colour/energy (of light) is transmitted/reflected

1

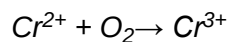
(d) $E_{O_2 / H_2O} > E_{Cr^{3+} / Cr^{2+}}$ / e.m.f = 1.67 V

Allow $E_{(cell)} = 1.67$

1

So Cr^{2+} ions are oxidised by oxygen/air

Allow any equation of the form:



1

With $[Cr(H_2O)_6]^{2+}$ get $CrCO_3$

If named must be chromium(II) carbonate

1

with $[Cr(H_2O)_6]^{3+}$ get $Cr(H_2O)_3(OH)_3$ / $Cr(OH)_3$

Allow 0 to 3 waters in the complex

1

and CO_2

Can score M3, M4, M5 in equations even if unbalanced

1

$Cr(III)$ differs from $Cr(II)$ because it is acidic / forms H^+ ions

1

because Cr^{3+} ion polarises water

Ignore charge/size ratio and mass/charge

1

[19]

4.

(a) (i) absorbs (certain frequencies of) (white) light / photons

not absorbs white / u.v. light

1

d electrons excited / promoted

or d electrons move between levels / orbitals

d electrons can be implied elsewhere in answer

1

the colour observed is the light not absorbed / light reflected / light transmitted

allow blue light transmitted

penalise emission of light in M3

1

(ii) ΔE is the energy gained by the (excited) electrons (of Cu^{2+})

allow:

- energy difference between orbitals / sub-shells
- energy of photon / light absorbed
- change in energy of the electrons energy lost by excited electrons
- energy of photon / light emitted

1

h (Planck's) constant

1

ν frequency of light (absorbed by $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\text{aq})$)

do not allow wavelength

*If energy lost / photon lost / light emitted in M1 do not penalised
light emitted*

1

(iii) $[\text{Cu}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+} + 4\text{Cl}^- \rightarrow [\text{CuCl}_4]^{2-} + 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$

note that $[\text{CuCl}_4]^{2-}$ is incorrect

penalise charges shown separately on the ligand and overall

penalise HCl

1

tetrahedral

1

Cl^- / Cl / chlorine too big (to fit more than 4 round Cu)

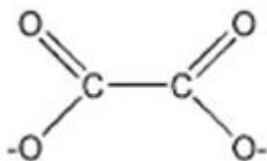
allow

water smaller than Cl^-

*explanation that change in shape is due to change in
co-ordination number*

1

(b)



allow:

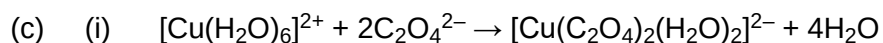
- ion drawn with any bond angles
- ion in square brackets with overall / 2- charge shown outside the brackets
- ion with delocalised O=C–O bonds in carboxylate group(s)

1

lone pair(s) on O⁻ / O

allow position of lone pair(s) shown on O in the diagram even if the diagram is incorrect.

1



product correct

1

equation balanced

1

6

note can only score M3 and M4 if M1 awarded or if complex in equation has 2 waters and 2 ethanedioates

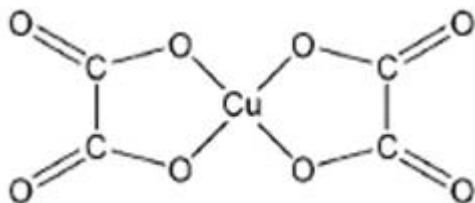
1

octahedral

If this condition is satisfied the complex can have the wrong charge(s) to allow access to M3 and M4 but not M1

1

(ii)



ignore charges

diagram must show both ethanedioates with correct bonding

ignore water

1

90°

allow 180°

mark bond angle independently but penalise if angle incorrectly labelled / indicated on diagram

1

[17]