



A-Level Chemistry

Infrared Spectroscopy

Mark Scheme

Time available: 64 minutes

Marks available: 61 marks

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Mark schemes

- 1.** (a) Bromine (water) 1
- Colour change from orange to colourless 1
- (b) Add sodium hydrogencarbonate (or alternative named carbonate)
Allow suitable correct alternative test e.g.
Test the pH with named indicator (e.g. Universal Indicator) 1
- Propanoic acid will produce effervescence / bubbles
Propanoic acid would turn Universal Indicator red 1
- (c) Tollen's reagent 1
- (Colourless solution to) silver mirror 1
- OR**
- Fehling's solution
- (Blue solution to) brick red precipitate
- (d) Absorption at $1680\text{--}1750\text{ cm}^{-1}$ caused by $\text{C}=\text{O}$ 1
- No absorption at $1620\text{--}1680\text{ cm}^{-1}$ caused by $\text{C}=\text{C}$ 1
- No absorption at $3230\text{--}3550\text{ cm}^{-1}$ due to $-\text{OH}$ (alcohol) 1
- No absorption at $2500\text{--}3000\text{ cm}^{-1}$ due to $-\text{OH}$ (acid) 1
- [10]**

2.

- (a) M1 have the same molecular formula
or are C_3H_6O
or both have the same number/amount of each type of atom or same amount of each element
or are isomers

Not just the same atoms;

1

- M2 identical / exactly the same / same precise (relative) molecular mass / formula mass / M_r

*Same (relative) molecular mass / formula mass / M_r is NOT enough
got score M2*

Allow same accurate (relative) molecular mass / formula mass / M_r

Ignore reference to number of decimal places

1

- (b) M1 prop-2-en-1-ol

Must refer to this compound clearly by name or structure (not to alcohol alone); ignore minor slips in name/structure

1

- M2 O(-)H (alcohol) and 3230–3550 (cm^{-1}), or
C=C and 1620–1680 (cm^{-1})

Marked independently from M1

Could score from bond labelled on correct signal on spectrum

Allow any value within these ranges

If additional incorrect signals given penalise M2

Ignore signals below 1500 cm^{-1} and C-H signals

1

- (c) (i) Determine the level by looking at the chemical content. (**NB** - If there is clear breakage of covalent bonds then max level 2 (max 3 marks).

- (ii) The mark within that level is then determined by looking at how coherent and logical the answer is and by use of terminology; start at the higher mark and penalise poor terminology/explanation; examples of terminology that would reduce the mark to the lower one:

- reference to van der Waals 'bonds' or dipole-dipole 'bonds in relevant compounds that are being credited
- uncertainty about whether hydrogen bonds are the O-H bonds within or are forces/bonds between molecules (if the alcohol is being credited)
- use of 'vdw' or 'dip-dip' unless these terms 'van der Waals' for 'dipole-dipole' have been used elsewhere in answer (note that IMF and H-bond would not be penalised)

- (iii) If the answer does not achieve level 1, then 1 mark maximum could be scored for any correct point from the list of indicative content

Level 3

- **Relative order** of boiling points of **all three** compounds
- Strongest intermolecular force of **all three** compounds identified
- Answer explains this coherently and logically and uses correct terminology for all **three** compounds

5-6 marks

Level 2

- **Relative** boiling points of **two** compounds correctly compared
- Strongest intermolecular force for these **two** compounds correctly identified
- Answer explains this coherently and logically and uses correct terminology for **these two** compounds

3-4 marks

Level 1

- **One** compound with the **highest** or **lowest** boiling point is correctly identified
- Strongest intermolecular force for that **one** compound identified
- Answer explains this coherently and logically and uses correct terminology for **this one** compound
- Allow 1 mark for individual correct point from indicative content on the right if no other mark scored

1-2 marks

Level 0

None of the indicative chemistry content given.

0 marks

Indicative chemistry content:

- *Correct order (highest to lowest) = prop-2-en-1-ol > propanal > butane*
- *Prop-2-en-1-ol has hydrogen bonds*
- *Propanal has (permanent) dipole-dipole forces*
- *Butane has van der Waals' forces*
- *Strength of intermolecular forces:
hydrogen bonds > dipole-dipole > van der Waals*
*(Note - actual values for reference are prop-2-en-1-ol 97°C,
propanal 46°C and butane -1°C)*

[10]

3.

(a) OH AND alcohol

IGNORE hydroxy(l)

1

(b) **A** = butan-2-ol / $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$

If formulae given then must be unambiguous

If both formula and name given then formula must match name for mark to be awarded

1

B = butan-1-ol / $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$

1

Product from **A** / **P** is a ketone

AND

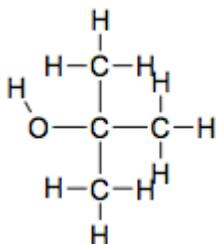
Product from **B** / **Q** is an aldehyde

Penalise reference to incorrect class of alcohol

1

(c) Type of Bond: C=C

1



*Must show all bonds in Isomer **C** including O–H bond*

1

Reagent: conc. H_2SO_4 / conc. H_3PO_4

If incorrect attempt at correct reagent, mark on

Apply list principle for reagents and conditions marks

Conc required - may appear on conditions line

NOT (aq) For M3 even if seen on conditions line

ALLOW

Reagent = Al_2O_3

Condition = 'passing vapour over hot solid' owtte

1

Conditions: 180 °C / High temp / Hot / Reflux /

ALLOW stated temp in range 100-300 °C/373-573 K

IGNORE 'heat'

M4 dependent on correct reagent in M3

1

(d) (i) **S** = aldehyde/CHO **AND** **T** = carboxylic/COOH/CO₂H

1

T forms hydrogen bonds

1

(Which are) stronger than / need more energy to break than forces between molecules/IMFs in **S** ora (or reverse argument)

If implication of breaking covalent bonds max M1 only

1

(ii) (No oxidation has occurred as..)

(Still) contains peak at 3230–3550 cm⁻¹ due to O–H/alcohol

Does not contain peak at 2500–3000 cm⁻¹ due to
O–H/carboxylic acid

Does not contain peak at 1680–1750 cm⁻¹ due to C=O

*Must have wavenumber range (or value within range) and bond or
functional group to score each mark.*

Any 2

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4.

(a) (i) CH₂O

Atoms in any order

Accept a clear indication that C₆H₁₂O₆ yields CH₂O as the answer

1

(ii) No peak / no absorption / no C=O in the **range 1680 to 1750** (cm⁻¹) (suggesting
no evidence of C=O)

*Allow the words “dip”, “spike”, “low transmittance” and “trough” as
alternatives for absorption*

Ignore references to other wavenumbers

1

(b) M1 C₆H₁₂O₆ \longrightarrow 2CH₃CH₂OH + 2CO₂

Penalise (C₂H₆O)

Allow multiples of the equation in M1

Either order

M2 (enzymes from) yeast or zymase

M3 25 °C ≤ T ≤ 42 °C OR 298 K ≤ T ≤ 315 K

For M2 and M3

Ignore “aqueous”

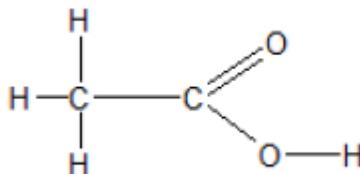
Ignore “anaerobic / absence of oxygen”

Ignore “controlled pH”

Ignore “warm”

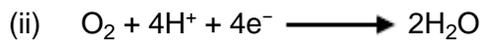
3

(c) (i) Displayed formula for CH₃COOH



All bonds must be drawn out, but ignore bond angles

1



Ignore state symbols

Negative charge on electron not essential

Accept multiples

Accept electrons subtracted from RHS

1



(C_2H_6O or C_2H_5OH)

Ignore state symbols

Negative charge on electron not essential

Accept multiples

Accept electrons subtracted from LHS

1

(iv) M1 Acidified potassium or sodium dichromate

For M1, it must be a whole reagent and / or correct formulae

OR $H_2SO_4 / K_2Cr_2O_7$ OR $H^+ / K_2Cr_2O_7$ etc.

Do not penalise incorrect attempt at formula if name is correct or vice versa

OR correct combination of formula and name

If oxidation state given in name, it must be correct, but mark on from an incorrect attempt at a correct reagent.

M2 (requires an attempt at M1)

orange to green

*Credit **acidified** potassium chromate(VI) / $H_2SO_4 + K_2CrO_4$*

Possible alternative

M1 (acidified) potassium manganate(VII) **OR** $KMnO_4 / H_2SO_4$

M2 purple to colourless

Other alternatives will be accepted but M2 is dependent on M1 in every case

M2 requires an attempt at a correct reagent for **M1**

Ignore reference to states

2

- (d) (i) An activity which has no net / overall (annual) carbon emissions to the atmosphere / air
The idea that the carbon / CO₂ given out equals the carbon / CO₂ that was taken in from the atmosphere / air

OR

An activity which has no net / overall (annual) greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere / air.

Answer must refer to the atmosphere or air

OR

There is no change in the total amount of carbon dioxide / carbon / greenhouse gas present in the atmosphere / air

1

- (ii) Renewable / sustainable ONLY

Ignore references to global warming or greenhouse gases

1

- (iii) **Any one statement about this process from**

Subject to weather / climate

Ignore "batch"

OR

Depletes food supply OR the land use for (specified) food

OR

Requires use of / uses more fossil fuels

OR

Not carbon-neutral OR CO₂ produced during a named process (eg harvest, transport etc.)

OR

Slow process / slow rate of reaction / takes a long time (to grow crops)

OR

This route leads to the production of a mixture of water and ethanol / impure ethanol that requires separation / further processing

1

[13]

5.

- (a) (i) C

1

- (ii) A

1

(iii) D

1

(iv) B

1

(b) **M1** Br₂ **OR** bromine (water) **OR** bromine (in CCl₄ / organic solvent)

If M1, has no reagent or an incorrect reagent, CE=0

Ignore "acidified"

For M1 penalise Br (or incorrect formula of other correct reagent), but mark on

For M1, it must be a whole reagent and/or correct formulae

Either order

If oxidation state given in name, it must be correct.

M2 cyclohexane **OR A** or the alkane: remains orange / red / yellow / brown / the same **OR** no reaction **OR** reference to colour going to cyclohexane layer

For M2 credit "no change"

Ignore "nothing"

Ignore "nothing happens"

Ignore "no observation"

M3 cyclohexene **OR D** or the alkene: decolourised / goes colourless / loses its colour

For M3, ignore "goes clear"

Alternatives : potassium manganate(VII)

M1 KMnO₄ in acid **M2** purple **M3** colourless

M1 KMnO₄ in alkali / neutral **M2** purple **M3** brown solid

Give appropriate credit for the use of iodine and observations

No credit for combustion observations

3

(c) **M1** acidified potassium or sodium dichromate
For M1, it must be a whole reagent and/or correct formulae

OR eg $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 / \text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7$ **OR** $\text{H}^+ / \text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7$

OR correct combination of formula and name
If oxidation state given in name, it must be correct.

M2 oxidation **OR** oxidised **OR** redox
Do not penalise incorrect attempt at formula if name is correct or vice versa

M3 secondary / 2° (alcohol)
Credit acidified potassium chromate(VI) / $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{K}_2\text{CrO}_4$

3

(d) **M1** (free-) radical substitution (mechanism)
M1 both words required

M2 $\text{Br}_2 \longrightarrow 2\text{Br}\cdot$
Penalise absence of dot once only.

M3 $\text{Br}\cdot + \text{CH}_4 \longrightarrow \cdot\text{CH}_3 + \text{HBr}$
Penalise + or – charges every time

M4 $\text{Br}_2 + \cdot\text{CH}_3 \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{Br} + \text{Br}\cdot$
Accept dot anywhere on methyl radical
Accept a correct termination step for 1 mark if neither M3 nor M4 are scored; otherwise ignore termination steps
Mark independently
NB If Cl_2 is used, penalise every time (this may be for M2, M3 and M4)
If cyclohexane is used, penalise every time (this may be for M3 and M4)

M5 Condition
ultra-violet / uv / sun light

OR high temperature

OR $125\text{ }^\circ\text{C} \leq T \leq 600\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$

OR $400\text{ K} \leq T \leq 870\text{ K}$
For M5 ignore “heat”

5

[15]