

**Victoria Junior College**  
**2017 H2 Chemistry Prelim Exam 9729/4**  
**Suggested Answers**

Answer **all** the questions in the spaces provided.

**1 Determination of the  $M_r$  of a carbonate salt**

**FA 1** is a solid carbonate,  $\text{XCO}_3$ .

**FA 2** is a solution containing  $1.00 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  of hydrochloric acid,  $\text{HCl}$ .

**FA 3** is a solution of  $\text{NaOH}$  of concentration  $0.100 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ .

In this question, you will perform a titration. The data from this titration will be used to determine

- the amount of  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  ions in the mass of **FA 1** used,
- the  $M_r$  of  $\text{XCO}_3$  and hence the identity of the metal **X**.

**(a) Titration of FA 4 against FA 3**

- (i)** You are to determine the amount of carbonate ions,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , in **FA 1**, by back titration after some **FA 2** has been added to it. Carry out the procedure as listed below.

1. Weigh accurately between  $1.25 - 1.35 \text{ g}$  of **FA 1** into a clean and dry  $150 \text{ cm}^3$  beaker. If you have used the TARE facility on the balance, indicate clearly in your recording.
2. Record your weighing in an appropriate format in the space provided on the next page.
3. Measure out  $50 \text{ cm}^3$  of **FA 2** into a measuring cylinder. Pour this into the beaker containing **FA 1**. Stir thoroughly to ensure all of **FA 1** has dissolved.
4. Quantitatively transfer the mixture into a  $250 \text{ cm}^3$  volumetric flask. Make up to the mark with distilled water. Shake to obtain a homogeneous solution. Label this solution **FA 4**.
5. Pipette  $25.0 \text{ cm}^3$  of **FA 4** into a conical flask and add 2 drops of methyl orange indicator.
6. Fill the burette with **FA 3**.
7. Titrate **FA 4** with **FA 3**.
8. Repeat the titration as many times as you consider necessary to obtain accurate results.
9. Record your titration results in the space provided on the next page. Make certain that your recorded results show the precision of your working.

**Results:***For weighing of FA 1*

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Mass of beaker and FA 1 / g | 5.125 |
| Mass of empty beaker / g    | 3.825 |
| Mass of FA 1 used / g       | 1.300 |

**OR if TARE is used:**

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Mass of beaker only / g | TARE  |
| Mass of FA1 / g         | 1.300 |

✓✓Table with appropriate headers / units  
 AND all readings to 3 dp  
 AND mass used within 1.25 – 1.35 g

*Titration*

| Experiment                                | 1     | 2     |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Final burette reading / cm <sup>3</sup>   | 25.90 | 36.00 |
| Initial burette reading / cm <sup>3</sup> | 0.00  | 10.00 |
| Volume of FA 3 used / cm <sup>3</sup>     | 25.90 | 26.00 |

✓✓Table with appropriate headers and units  
 ✓✓Record all burette readings to 2 dp  
 ✓✓At least two consistent readings  $\pm 0.10$  cm<sup>3</sup>  
 Accuracy:  
 [2m] M<sub>r</sub> within  $\pm 4$  units of supervisor's answer (108)  
 [1m] M<sub>r</sub> within  $\pm 8$  units of supervisor's answer (108)

[5m]

[6]

- (ii) From your titrations, obtain a suitable volume of **FA 3** to be used in your calculations. Show clearly how you obtained this volume.

✓✓Average volume of FA 3 =  $(25.90 + 26.00) / 2 = 25.95$  cm<sup>3</sup>

volume of **FA 3** =  $25.95$  cm<sup>3</sup> [1]

- (b) (i) Calculate the amount of excess acid pipetted into the conical flask.

✓✓Amount of acid pipetted in  $25.0$  cm<sup>3</sup>  
 $= (25.95 / 1000) \times 0.100 = 2.60 \times 10^{-3}$  mol

Amount of excess acid in conical flask =  $2.60 \times 10^{-3}$  mol [1]

- (ii) Calculate the total amount of excess acid in the volumetric flask.

✓✓Total amount of excess acid  
 $= (250 / 25.0) \times 2.60 \times 10^{-3}$  mol =  $2.60 \times 10^{-2}$  mol

amount of excess acid in the volumetric flask =  $2.60 \times 10^{-2}$  mol [1]

- (iii) Hence calculate the amount of acid that has reacted with the carbonate that you have weighed out.

$$\checkmark\checkmark \text{Amount of acid reacted} \\ = (1.00 \times 50/1000) - 2.60 \times 10^{-2} = 0.0240 \text{ mol}$$

$$\text{Amount of acid reacted} = 0.0240 \text{ mol [1]}$$

- (iv) Use your answer in b(iii) to calculate the  $M_r$  of  $\text{XCO}_3$ .



$$\checkmark\checkmark \text{Amount of XCO}_3 = (0.0240 / 2) = 0.0120 \text{ mol}$$

$$\checkmark\checkmark M_r \text{ of XCO}_3 = (1.30 / 0.0120) = 108.3$$

$$M_r \text{ of XCO}_3 = 108.3$$

Deduce the identity of metal X. Show your working.

[ $A_r$ : C, 12.0; O, 16.0; H, 1.0; Be, 9.0; Mg, 24.3; Ca, 40.1; Sr, 87.6; Ba, 137.3]

$$A_r \text{ of X} + 12.0 + 3(16.0) = 108.3$$

$$A_r \text{ of X} = 48.3$$

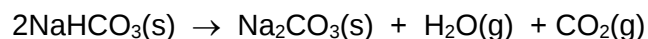
$$\checkmark\checkmark \text{Hence X is Ca (calculated value closest to } A_r \text{ of Ca)}$$

X is **Ca** [3]

[Total: 13]

**(c) Planning**

Sodium carbonate,  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ , does **not** decompose on heating with a Bunsen burner. Sodium hydrogencarbonate,  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , decompose on heating.



You are to design an experiment in which the percentage by mass of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  in a mixture of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  can be determined by heating and weighing alone.

The only apparatus available consists of:

a boiling tube and holder  
a chemical balance  
a Bunsen burner  
a heat proof mat

You are to show how you would use the results of this experiment to determine the percentage by mass of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  in the mixture.

- (i) Outline, step by step, the practical sequence for the method you would use to:

- make appropriate weighings,
- decompose the sodium hydrogencarbonate in the mixture by heating,
- ensure that the decomposition was complete.

1. Weigh the clean and dry boiling tube.
2. Add all the sample into the boiling tube. Weigh the mass of the boiling tube with the sample.
3. Heat the boiling tube gently at first (~1 min) and then strongly (~5 min) to decompose the sodium hydrogencarbonate. Heat the whole length of the tube to ensure even heating of the mixture and to prevent condensation.
4. Cool the boiling tube on a heat proof mat, and weigh the mass of the boiling tube and its residue.
5. Repeat heating, cooling and weighing steps [steps 3 and 4] until constant mass is achieved (OR consecutive mass difference within  $\pm 0.050$  g is achieved) to ensure complete decomposition. Record all masses.

Mark Scheme

[1m]: weigh empty boiling tube, sample and boiling tube before and after heating

[1m]: give details such as dry boiling tube, heat strongly, heat whole length of tube, use of heat proof mat for cooling

[1m]: heat until constant mass (OR within  $\pm 0.050$  g) to ensure complete decomposition

[3]

- (ii) By considering the products of the decomposition, suggest a reason why a crucible, without a lid, might be more appropriate than a boiling tube for this experiment.

The crucible has a ✓✓ wider surface area for the volatile substances such as water vapour and carbon dioxide to escape more readily which lowers the risk of breakage due to condensation.

[OR It can withstand high temperature during heating which reduces the risk of breakage.]

[1]

- (iii) Prepare a table to show the masses you would measure and record during the experiment. Include in your table any other masses you would calculate from the experimental results to enable you to determine the percentage by mass of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  in the mixture.

Insert in your table the letters **A**, **B**, **C** etc. to represent each mass. Use these letters to show how your calculated masses are obtained e.g. **B – A**.

|                                                             |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Mass of empty boiling tube / g                              | A     |
| Mass of boiling tube and sample before heating / g          | B     |
| Mass of boiling tube and residue after heating / g          | C     |
| Mass of sample used / g                                     | B – A |
| Mass loss due to $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{CO}_2$ / g | B – C |

**Mark Scheme**

[1m]: Tabulation with headers and units as well as raw data recorded (first 3 rows)

[1m]: Processed data of mass of sample used and mass loss due to heating (last 2 rows)

[2]

- (iv) Use the letters you have entered in (c)(iii) to show how you would process the results to find:

- the mass of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  in the mixture,

[Ar: C, 12.0; H, 1.0; O, 16.0; Na, 23.0]

✓✓ Mass of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  in the mixture

$$= (B - C) \times \frac{168.0}{62.0} \text{ g} = R \text{ g}$$

- the percentage by mass of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  in the mixture.

✓✓ Percentage of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  in the mixture =  $[R / (B - A)] \times 100 \%$

[2]

[Total: 8]

## 2 Determination of the concentration of a mixture of acids and the enthalpy change of neutralization

**FA 5** is an aqueous solution prepared by mixing equal volumes of  $y \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  hydrochloric acid,  $\text{HCl}$ , and  $y \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  sulfuric acid,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .

**FA 6** is  $1.60 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  sodium hydroxide,  $\text{NaOH}$ .

**Take care as aqueous solutions of sodium hydroxide are corrosive.**

When an acid is run into an alkali, an exothermic reaction takes place and the temperature of the mixture increases until the end-point is reached. If acid is added beyond the end-point, the temperature will decrease as no further reaction takes place and the acid is at a lower temperature than the mixture.

You are to follow the neutralisation of the acids in **FA 5** by measuring the temperature as volumes of **FA 5** are added in regular portions from a burette to a fixed volume of **FA 6** placed in a Styrofoam cup.

The data obtained will enable you to determine the value of  $y$  and the enthalpy change of neutralization,  $\Delta H_{\text{neut}}$ , of this acid-base reaction.

In an appropriate format in the space provided on the next page, prepare a table in which you may record the following after each addition of **FA 5**:

- Total volume of **FA 5** added from the burette up to the point in time
- Total volume of solution in the cup ( $V_{\text{cup}}$ )
- Temperature measured ( $T$ )

You also need to calculate the corresponding values of:

- $\Delta T = T - T_0$ , where  $T_0$  is the initial temperature of **FA 6**
- ( $V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T$ ) to 3 significant figures

1. Fill the burette to  $0.00 \text{ cm}^3$  with **FA 5**.
2. Place the Styrofoam cup in a  $250 \text{ cm}^3$  beaker to provide support for the cup. Use the measuring cylinder to place  $40.0 \text{ cm}^3$  of **FA 6** into the cup and measure the steady temperature of the alkali,  $T_0$ .
3. Run  $5.00 \text{ cm}^3$  of **FA 5** from the burette into the cup, stir the solution with the thermometer and record the maximum temperature,  $T$ .
4. **Immediately** run a further  $5.00 \text{ cm}^3$  of **FA 5** from the burette into the cup, stir and record the maximum temperature as before.
5. Continue the addition of **FA 5** in  $5.00 \text{ cm}^3$  portions and record the maximum or minimum temperature reached after each addition. Do this until a total of  $45.00 \text{ cm}^3$  of solution have been run from the burette.

### (a) (i) Experimental results

| Total volume of FA 5 / cm <sup>3</sup> | Total volume of solution in the cup (V <sub>cup</sub> ) / cm <sup>3</sup> | Temperature (T) / °C | $\Delta T = T - T_0$ / °C | (V <sub>cup</sub> × $\Delta T$ ) / cm <sup>3</sup> °C |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 0.00                                   | 40.0                                                                      | 31.0                 | 0.0                       | 0.00                                                  |
| 5.00                                   | 45.0                                                                      | 35.0                 | 4.0                       | 180                                                   |
| 10.00                                  | 50.0                                                                      | 38.5                 | 7.5                       | 375                                                   |
| 15.00                                  | 55.0                                                                      | 41.0                 | 10.0                      | 550                                                   |
| 20.00                                  | 60.0                                                                      | 43.0                 | 12.0                      | 720                                                   |
| 25.00                                  | 65.0                                                                      | 44.0                 | 13.0                      | 845                                                   |
| 30.00                                  | 70.0                                                                      | 45.0                 | 14.0                      | 980                                                   |
| 35.00                                  | 75.0                                                                      | 44.0                 | 13.0                      | 975                                                   |
| 40.00                                  | 80.0                                                                      | 43.0                 | 12.0                      | 960                                                   |
| 45.00                                  | 85.0                                                                      | 42.0                 | 11.0                      | 935                                                   |

✓✓Clear headers with units

AND table populated up to 45.00 cm<sup>3</sup> of FA 5

✓✓Correct computation of V<sub>cup</sub>,  $\Delta T$  and (V<sub>cup</sub> ×  $\Delta T$ )

✓✓Correct precision: 2 d.p. for FA 5, 1 d.p. for V<sub>cup</sub>, 1 d.p. for temperature and 3 s.f. for (V<sub>cup</sub> ×  $\Delta T$ )

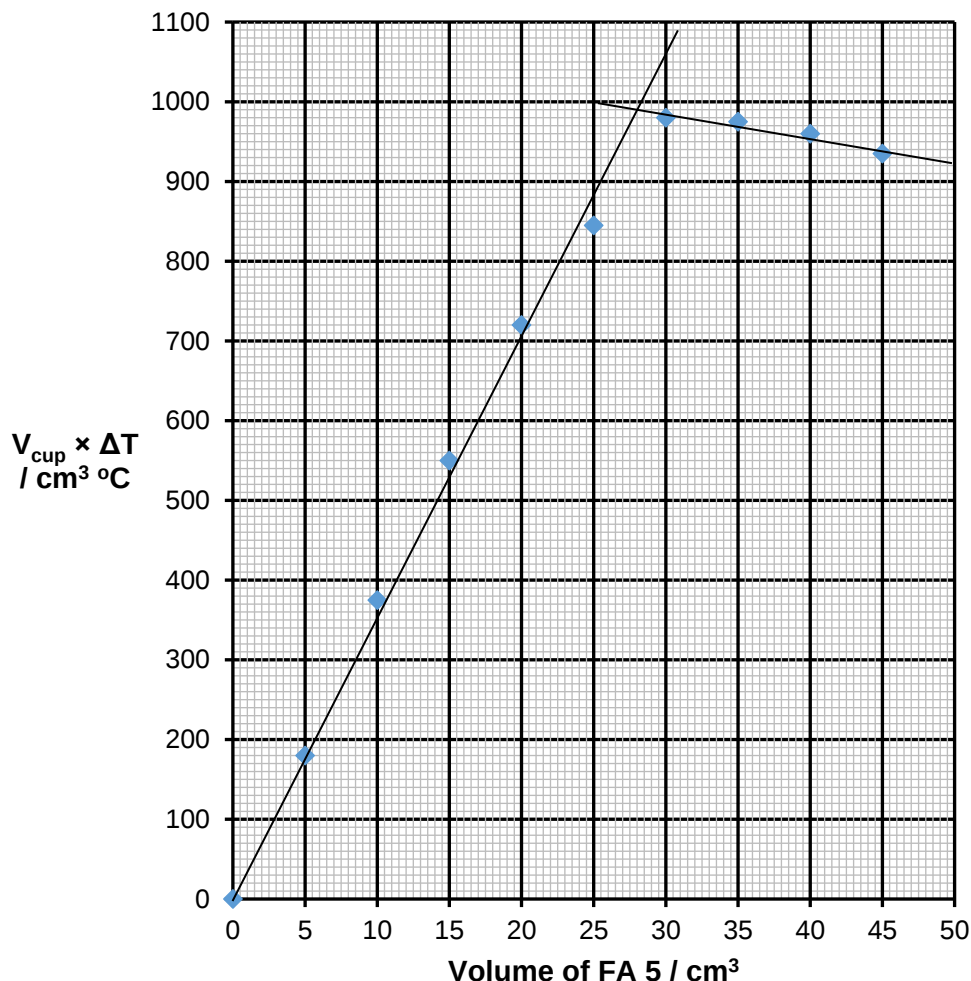
[3]

- (ii) On the grid provided below, plot ( $V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T$ ) against the total volume of FA 5 added.

Draw a line of best fit for the points before the maximum value of ( $V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T$ ).

Draw a second line of best fit for the points after the maximum value.

Extrapolate both lines until they meet.



✓✓ Axes labelled with units AND scale large enough to cover at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of given grid  
 ✓✓ Points correctly plotted to  $\pm \frac{1}{2}$  a small square AND two lines of best fit drawn and extrapolated to meet

[2]

- (iii) Read from your graph the maximum value of ( $V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T$ ) and the end-point volume of the titration.

maximum value of ( $V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T$ ) = **990 cm³ °C**

end-point volume = **28.0 cm³** [3]

✓✓ Vol of FA5 AND  $V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T$  correctly read to  $\pm \frac{1}{2}$  a small square

Accuracy:

Supervisor's value = 28.0 cm³

[2m] End-point volume within 3.0 cm³ of supervisor's value

[1m] End-point volume within 5.0 cm³ of supervisor's value

- (b) (i) Calculate the concentration of hydrogen ions in **FA 5**.



$$n_{\text{OH}^-} = (40.0 / 1000) \times 1.60 = 0.0640 \text{ mol} = n_{\text{H}^+}$$

$$\checkmark\checkmark [\text{H}^+] = (0.0640 / \frac{28.0}{1000})$$

$$= 2.29 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$$

concentration of hydrogen ions = **2.29 mol dm<sup>-3</sup>** [1]

- (ii) Hence, determine the value of  $y$ , which is the concentration of either HCl or H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> used to prepare **FA 5**.

If  $V \text{ cm}^3$  of HCl and  $V \text{ cm}^3$  of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> were mixed to prepare **FA 5**,

$$[\text{H}^+] = [n_{\text{H}^+} \text{ from HCl} + n_{\text{H}^+} \text{ from H}_2\text{SO}_4] / 2V$$

$$2.29 = [V \times y + V \times 2y] / 2V$$

$$= 3y / 2$$

$$\checkmark\checkmark y = 1.53 \text{ [accept with or without mol dm}^{-3}\text{]}$$

$$y = 1.53 \text{ [1]}$$

- (c) (i) Determine the enthalpy change of neutralization of this reaction,  $\Delta H_{\text{neut}}$ .

You should assume that the specific heat capacity of the final solution is  $4.18 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , and that its density is  $1.00 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ .

$$\checkmark\checkmark \text{Heat evolved} = (V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T) \times c = 990 \times 4.18 = 4140 \text{ J}$$

$$n_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = n_{\text{OH}^-} = 0.0640 \text{ mol}$$

$$\checkmark\checkmark \Delta H_{\text{neut}} = -4140 / 0.0640 = -64700 \text{ J mol}^{-1} = -64.7 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

**$\checkmark\checkmark$ Correct units for 1(a)(ii), 1(b), 2(a)(iii), 2(b) and 2(c)(i)**

**AND**

**1 d.p. for  $A_r$  /  $M_r$ , 3 sf for other answers, clear statements and working for 1(b), 2(b) and 2(c)(i)**

$$\Delta H_{\text{neut}} = -64.7 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1} \text{ [3]}$$

- (ii) Student **A** carefully performed the same experiment and correctly processed the data using the same method. His calculated value of  $\Delta H_{\text{neut}}$  is  $-65.0 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  while the published value for this enthalpy change is  $-57.7 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ .

The specific heat capacity of the Styrofoam cup has not been taken into consideration in calculating  $\Delta H_{\text{neut}}$ . Explain whether this omission could have been the reason for the discrepancy between the value obtained by Student **A** and the one published.

**Omission of the specific heat capacity of the cup  $\checkmark\checkmark$ could not have been the reason for the discrepancy because this would result in a  $\checkmark\checkmark$ less exothermic  $\Delta H_{\text{neut}}$  since the cup would also absorb heat.**

[2]

- (iii) Student **B** performed the same experiment but chose to plot  $\Delta T$  instead of  $(V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T)$  on the y-axis.

He also drew and extrapolated two straight lines through the plotted points to do the calculations.

Suggest why his method is likely to yield **less** accurate results.

$$V_{\text{cup}} \times \Delta T \propto \text{heat evolved}$$

$$\propto \text{moles of limiting reagent}$$

$$\propto \text{volume of FA 5 added before the end-point}$$

✓✓However, total volume in the cup is not constant. Hence,  $\Delta T$  is not proportional to volume of FA 5 added [OR vary less linearly with volume of FA 5]

[1]

[Total: 16]

### 3 Inorganic Analysis

- (a) You are provided with the solid **FA 7** which contains one cation and one anion from the ions listed in the **Qualitative Analysis Notes**, and the solution **FA 8**.

You are to perform the tests below to identify the ions present in **FA 7** and to suggest the nature of the compound in **FA 8**.

If the evolution of a gas is observed at any stage, the gas should be tested and identified. Details of the test carried out, the observations of the test and the identity of the gas should be given with the observations.

If it appears that no reaction has taken place this should be clearly recorded.

Carry out the following tests on **FA 7** and **FA 8** and complete the table to show your observations.

| Test  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Observations                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)   | To a spatula–full of <b>FA 7</b> in a test-tube add 3 cm depth of dilute sulfuric acid. Warm, and when the reaction has stopped, filter the mixture. Retain the filtrate for tests (iii) and (iv).                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effervescence of <math>\text{CO}_2</math> which</li> <li>• forms white ppt. in limewater</li> <li>• Colourless filtrate</li> </ul>      |
| (ii)  | Place a spatula–full of <b>FA 7</b> in a test-tube and heat strongly. Leave the tube to cool. Retain the residue for test (viii).                                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>\text{CO}_2</math> gas evolved which</li> <li>• forms white ppt. in limewater</li> <li>• Black residue (OR dark brown)</li> </ul> |
| (iii) | To a 1 cm depth of the filtrate from (i) in a test-tube, add aqueous sodium hydroxide drop by drop until 1 cm depth of the reagent has been added. Then add a further 1 cm depth of the aqueous sodium hydroxide. | • Off-white ppt. insoluble in excess                                                                                                                                             |
|       | Swirl the test-tube and leave to stand for 2–3 minutes.                                                                                                                                                           | • Off-white ppt., rapidly turning brown on contact with air                                                                                                                      |
| (iv)  | To a 1 cm depth of the filtrate from (i) in a test-tube, add aqueous ammonia drop by drop until 1 cm depth of the reagent has been added. Then add a further 1 cm depth of the aqueous ammonia.                   | • Off-white ppt. insoluble in excess                                                                                                                                             |

|        |                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|        | Then <b>cautiously</b> add 1 cm depth of <b>FA 8</b> .                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off-white ppt., rapidly turning (dark) brown</li> <li>• Effervescence of O<sub>2</sub></li> <li>• relights a glowing splint</li> </ul> |
| (v)    | Place 2 cm depth of aqueous potassium iodide in a test-tube and add 2 cm depth of <b>FA 8</b> .                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solution turns (pale) yellow</li> </ul>                                                                                                |
|        | Then add 2 cm depth of dilute sulfuric acid.                                                                                                                                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellow solution turns brown</li> <li>• Black solid forms</li> </ul>                                                                    |
| (vi)   | To a 1 cm depth of <b>FA 8</b> in a test-tube, add 1 cm depth of dilute sulfuric acid and 2 cm depth of potassium manganate(VII). Observe for 2 minutes or until no further change occurs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purple solution decolourises</li> <li>• Effervescence of O<sub>2</sub></li> <li>• relights a glowing splint</li> </ul>                 |
| (vii)  | To a 1 cm depth of aqueous sodium sulfite in a test-tube, add a few drops of aqueous barium nitrate.                                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White ppt</li> </ul>                                                                                                                   |
|        | Then add 2 cm depth of dilute nitric acid.                                                                                                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White ppt soluble in acid</li> </ul>                                                                                                   |
|        | <b>Immediately</b> add 1 cm depth of <b>FA 8</b> .                                                                                                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White ppt reforms</li> </ul>                                                                                                           |
| (viii) | Transfer a portion of the residue from test (ii) into a test-tube and add 2 cm depth of <b>FA 8</b> .                                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effervescence of O<sub>2</sub></li> <li>• relights a glowing splint</li> </ul>                                                         |

[Mark Scheme: 20-23: 9m, 18-19: 8m, 16-17: 7m, 14-15: 6m, 12-13: 5m, 10-11: 4m, 8-9: 3m, 6-7: 2m, 4-5: 1m]

[9]

- (b) (i) From your observations, identify the cation and anion present in **FA 7**. Quote evidence from the table to support your conclusions.

Cation      ✓Mn<sup>2+</sup>

Evidence    ✓Test (iii): off-white ppt., rapidly turning brown on contact with air, insoluble in excess [OR test (iv)]

Anion        ✓CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>

Evidence    ✓Test (i): Effervescence of CO<sub>2</sub> that forms white ppt. in limewater [OR test (ii)]

[2]

- (ii) In tests (a)(v) and (vii), **FA 8** behaves as ✓oxidising agent

In test (a)(vi), **FA 8** behaves as ✓reducing agent

[1]

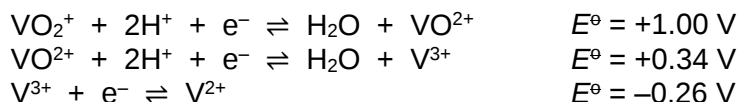
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## (c) Planning

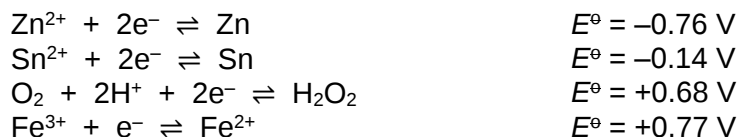
One of the transition metals, vanadium, was named after the Scandinavian goddess of beauty and fertility, Vanadis (Freya) due to the wide range of colours found in vanadium compounds.

Starting with an aqueous solution of  $\text{VO}_2^+$ , you are to devise a plan which will enable you to determine the colour exhibited by two other ions containing vanadium,  $\text{VO}^{2+}$  and  $\text{V}^{3+}$ . Your plan should only involve simple test-tube reactions.

The standard electrode potentials of the following ions are as shown:



There are four reducing agents available as shown:



- (i) Explain which reducing agent(s) will **not** be suitable for determining the colours exhibited by  $\text{VO}^{2+}$  and  $\text{V}^{3+}$ .

✓✓Zinc will reduce  $\text{VO}_2^+$  to  $\text{V}^{2+}$  and hence will not be able to observe the colour exhibited by  $\text{VO}^{2+}$  and  $\text{V}^{3+}$ .

✓✓ $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  is coloured and thus will affect the final colour observed.

[OR The reaction between  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{VO}_2^+$  is unlikely to occur as both reactants are positively charged and hence will not be kinetically feasible.]

[2]

- (ii) Complete the table by choosing a suitable reducing agent for determining the colour exhibited by  $\text{VO}^{2+}$  and  $\text{V}^{3+}$  respectively. Justify your choice by calculating relevant  $E^\ominus_{\text{cell}}$  values.

|                                            | Reducing agent            | Justification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $\text{VO}_2^+ \rightarrow \text{VO}^{2+}$ | ✓✓ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ | $\text{VO}_2^+ + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{VO}^{2+} \quad E^\ominus = +1.00 \text{ V}$<br>$\text{O}_2 + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \quad E^\ominus = +0.68 \text{ V}$<br>$E^\ominus_{\text{cell}} = 1.00 - (0.68)$<br>$= \checkmark\checkmark +0.32 \text{ V} > 0$<br><b>Reaction is feasible.</b><br><br>$\text{VO}^{2+} + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{V}^{3+} \quad E^\ominus = +0.34 \text{ V}$<br>$\text{O}_2 + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \quad E^\ominus = +0.68 \text{ V}$<br>$E^\ominus_{\text{cell}} = 0.34 - (0.68)$<br>$= \checkmark\checkmark -0.34 \text{ V} < 0$<br><b>Reaction is <u>not</u> feasible.</b><br><br><b><math>\text{H}_2\text{O}_2</math> can only reduce <math>\text{VO}_2^+</math> to <math>\text{VO}^{2+}</math>.</b> |

|                                           |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $\text{VO}_2^+ \rightarrow \text{V}^{3+}$ | ✓✓Sn | $\text{VO}_2^+ + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{VO}^{2+} \quad E^\ominus = +1.00 \text{ V}$<br>$\text{Sn}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{Sn} \quad E^\ominus = -0.14 \text{ V}$ |
|                                           |      | $E^\ominus_{\text{cell}} = 1.00 - (-0.14)$<br>$= \checkmark\checkmark +1.14 \text{ V} > 0$                                                                                                                                           |
|                                           |      | Reaction is feasible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                           |      | $\text{VO}^{2+} + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{V}^{3+} \quad E^\ominus = +0.34 \text{ V}$<br>$\text{Sn}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{Sn} \quad E^\ominus = -0.14 \text{ V}$ |
|                                           |      | $E^\ominus_{\text{cell}} = 0.34 - (-0.14)$<br>$= \checkmark\checkmark +0.48 \text{ V} > 0$                                                                                                                                           |
|                                           |      | Reaction is feasible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                           |      | $\text{V}^{3+} + \text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{V}^{2+} \quad E^\ominus = -0.26 \text{ V}$<br>$\text{Sn}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons \text{Sn} \quad E^\ominus = -0.14 \text{ V}$                                     |
|                                           |      | $E^\ominus_{\text{cell}} = -0.26 - (-0.14)$<br>$= \checkmark\checkmark -0.12 \text{ V} < 0$                                                                                                                                          |
|                                           |      | Reaction is <u>not</u> feasible.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                           |      | Sn can only reduce $\text{VO}_2^+$ to $\text{V}^{3+}$ .                                                                                                                                                                              |

[Mark Scheme: 6-7: 4m, 5: 3m, 3-4: 2m, 1-2: 1m]

[4]

[Total: 6]