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Level: CIE AS and A Level (9701) Subject: Chemistry Topic: CIE Chemistry Type: Mark Scheme



Chemistry CIE AS & A Level To be used for all exam preparation for 2025+





This to be used by all students studying CIE AS and A level Chemistry (9701) But students of other boards may find it useful



### Mark Scheme

#### Answer 1

The correct answer is A because:

- When concentrated sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) reacts with a halogen it acts as both an acid and an oxidising agent.
  - Products formed due to H2SO4 acting as an acid: hydrogen halide and sodium hydrogen sulfate.
  - As H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> acts as an oxidising agent the halogen is acting as a reducing agent.
- Only bromine and iodine are strong enough reducing agents to reduce the concentrated sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>).
  - For example, in potassium bromide; the bromide ions are oxidised to bromine.
  - The bromide ions reduce the sulfuric acid to sulfur dioxide gas.
- Therefore, a series of steps take place in the reaction of KBr and H2SO4:
  - 1. Sulfuric acid acts as an acid and donates a proton to the bromide ion:
    - $\blacksquare KBr + H_2SO_4 \rightarrow KHSO_4 + HBr$

2. The HBr gets oxidized and the sulfuric acid is reduced:  $2HBr + H_2SO_4 \rightarrow Br_2 + SO_2 + 2H_2O$ 

• The complete list of products from both steps of this reaction are potassium

**hydrogensulfate (KHSO**4), hydrogen bromide (HBr), bromine (Br2), sulfur dioxide (SO2) and water (H2O).



#### Answer 2

The correct answer is **B** because:

- In hot concentrated sulfuric acid, the astatide ion acts as a strong reducing agent.
- The sulfuric acid is reduced to hydrogen sulfide gas, and the astatide is oxidised to astatine.
- This is an example of a **redox** reaction:
  - 8NaAt (s) +  $5H_2SO_4$  (l) →  $4Na_2SO_4$  (s) +  $4At_2$  (s) +  $H_2$  (g) +  $4H_2O$  (l)
- As you go down the group the reducing power of the Group 17 atoms increases, or it is more easily oxidised.

A is incorrect as following the solubility trend that AgI is insoluble. AgAt will also be insoluble.

C is incorrect as a halogen atom can only displace a less reactive halide ion from its salt. Astatine is less reactive than chlorine so no reaction would take place.

D is incorrect as sulfur dioxide is also produced.

#### Answer 3

## The correct answer is D because: PERS PRACTICE

- The test has to be done in solution, so the powders were added to water.
- C When acidified silver nitrate is added a pale yellow colour is seen.
  - The pale yellow colour shows the presence of sodium iodide.
  - When the concentrated ammonia was added the precipitate partially dissolved and leaves a darker yellow precipitate.
    - $\circ$   $\;$  The darker yellow precipitate confirms the presence of sodium iodide.
    - The partial dissolving of the precipitate confirms the presences of sodium chloride.

A is incorrect as the precipitate would not partially dissolve when concentrated aqueous ammonia was added.

B & C are incorrect as the precipitate would be a cream colour when aqueous silver nitrate was added.

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#### Answer 4

The correct answer is C because:

- In reaction 1 there is no change in the oxidation state of sulfur.
  - Both hydrogen and potassium have an oxidation state of +1 meaning that the sulfur oxidation state in these compounds is +6.
- In reaction 2 the bromide ions reduce the sulfuric acid to sulfur dioxide gas, this decreases the oxidation state of the sulfur from +6 in the sulfuric acid to +4 in the sulfur dioxide.
  - A change in the oxidation state of 2.
- In reaction 3 the reduction of sulfuric acid (oxidation state +6) is more complex.
  - The first stage is to sulfur dioxide (sulfur oxidation state +4).
  - Then to sulfur (oxidation state 0).
  - And then to hydrogen sulfide (sulfur oxidation state -2).
  - This makes the greatest change in oxidation state in this reaction 8 (from +6 to -2).

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