

AQA (GCSE Notes)

Chapter 8: Chemical Analysis

- Q1. What is meant by a pure substance in chemistry?
- Q2. How can melting point data help identify whether a substance is pure?
- Q3. Why do pure substances have specific boiling points?
- Q4. What is the main difference between a pure substance and a mixture?
- Q5. How does the melting point of a mixture compare with that of a pure substance?
- Q6. Why does an impure substance melt over a range of temperatures?
- Q7. What is the definition of a formulation?
- Q8. Why are formulations used in everyday products?
- Q9. How can the properties of a formulation be controlled?
- Q10. Give an example of a formulation and explain its components' purposes.
- Q11. How do formulations differ from simple mixtures?
- Q12. Why is it important to mix the components of a formulation in the correct amounts?
- Q13. What types of products are often made as formulations?
- Q14. Why are medicines often formulated with more than one chemical?
- Q15. How would you identify if a product is a formulation from its label?
- Q16. Why might a paint formulation contain both pigments and solvents?
- Q17. What role do fertilisers play as formulations in agriculture?
- Q18. How can you test the purity of a chemical substance?
- Q19. What would happen to the boiling point of a substance if it is contaminated?
- Q20. In what way does the everyday definition of "pure" differ from the scientific definition?
- Q21. Why might a pure substance from nature still be considered impure in chemistry?
- Q22. How do alloys demonstrate the concept of formulations?

- Q23.** What is the role of chromatography in identifying pure substances?
- Q24.** Why are boiling point and melting point data useful in forensic science?
- Q25.** Why is it important for food products to be pure?
- Q26.** What makes a good cleaning agent formulation?
- Q27.** What property of a mixture changes if an extra component is added?
- Q28.** Why do scientists measure both melting and boiling points during purity testing?
- Q29.** How do temperature changes affect the properties of mixtures?
- Q30.** How does a drug formulation ensure that the medicine works effectively?
- Q31.** Why can formulations not be separated by simple physical means?
- Q32.** What is the importance of accurate measuring when making formulations?
- Q33.** How does the presence of impurities affect the safety of chemicals?
- Q34.** Why is it important that fuels are carefully formulated?
- Q35.** What is the function of binders in paint formulations?
- Q36.** Why do scientists analyse formulations in forensic investigations?
- Q37.** How do changes in component ratios affect the performance of a formulation?
- Q38.** Why is it important to test the consistency of formulations during manufacturing?
- Q39.** What makes instrumental methods more reliable than qualitative tests?
- Q40.** How can chromatography help identify unknown chemicals in a mixture?
- Q41.** Why is it difficult to identify the components of a complex mixture without instrumental methods?
- Q42.** What advantage do instrumental methods offer when only a small sample is available?
- Q43.** How do impurities affect the appearance of a substance during testing?
- Q44.** What is meant by the term “sensitive” in relation to instrumental testing?
- Q45.** Why must forensic scientists use accurate and sensitive tests?
- Q46.** How can you tell if a liquid is a formulation?
- Q47.** Why are insoluble solids formed during some purity tests?

- Q48.** Why do cleaning products often contain multiple components?
- Q49.** What would happen if the components in a formulation were not well mixed?
- Q50.** How can you use chromatography to check the purity of a sample?
- Q51.** What is the purpose of the stationary phase in paper chromatography?
- Q52.** What is the role of the mobile phase in paper chromatography?
- Q53.** Why do different substances move different distances in paper chromatography?
- Q54.** What is meant by the R_f value in chromatography?
- Q55.** How is the R_f value of a substance calculated?
- Q56.** What does an R_f value tell you about a substance in chromatography?
- Q57.** Why must the baseline in paper chromatography be drawn in pencil?
- Q58.** What would happen if the baseline in chromatography was drawn in ink?
- Q59.** What does it mean if a chromatogram shows more than one spot for a substance?
- Q60.** How can you tell if a substance is pure using chromatography?
- Q61.** What does a single spot on a chromatogram suggest about a substance?
- Q62.** Why is it important to keep the solvent level below the baseline in chromatography?
- Q63.** Why do different solvents produce different chromatograms for the same mixture?
- Q64.** What safety precautions should be taken during the chromatography experiment?
- Q65.** How do you prepare a chromatography paper for separating food colours?
- Q66.** What is the significance of placing the lid on the chromatography container?
- Q67.** What can you do if two substances have very similar R_f values?
- Q68.** What is the effect of temperature on the movement of substances in chromatography?
- Q69.** Why is it important to allow the solvent to rise to a suitable height on the paper?
- Q70.** How can paper chromatography be used to identify an unknown substance?
- Q71.** In a chromatography experiment, what would you do if the solvent front is not straight?
- Q72.** How do impurities in a sample affect the chromatography results?

- Q73.** What are some common solvents used in paper chromatography?
- Q74.** How can you compare Rf values obtained in an experiment with known values?
- Q75.** How would you measure the distance moved by the solvent?
- Q76.** How would you measure the distance moved by a coloured spot?
- Q77.** What units are used when calculating Rf values?
- Q78.** What is the maximum value an Rf value can have?
- Q79.** Why should Rf values be recorded to two decimal places?
- Q80.** What is the test for hydrogen gas?
- Q81.** What observation confirms the presence of hydrogen during the test?
- Q82.** Why is a burning splint used when testing for hydrogen?
- Q83.** What is the test for oxygen gas?
- Q84.** What does it mean when a glowing splint relights?
- Q85.** Why is it important to use a glowing splint instead of a burning one when testing for oxygen?
- Q86.** Why must the test tube be open during the test for gases?
- Q87.** What might cause a false positive result when testing for hydrogen?
- Q88.** How can you make sure the gas being tested is not contaminated?
- Q89.** Why is it useful to test for gases in chemical reactions?
- Q90.** How do you safely collect hydrogen gas in the lab?
- Q91.** Why is hydrogen collected over water?
- Q92.** What safety concerns are there when testing for hydrogen?
- Q93.** Why does hydrogen make a 'pop' sound when tested?
- Q94.** In what type of reaction is oxygen usually produced?
- Q95.** How can you distinguish between hydrogen and oxygen using tests?
- Q96.** What would happen if you used a glowing splint to test for hydrogen?
- Q97.** How could you show that a gas produced is not oxygen?

- Q98.** Why should you carry out the gas tests quickly after collecting the gas?
- Q99.** What is the advantage of using simple gas tests in school laboratories?
- Q100.** How can you confirm that a gas collected in an experiment is not air?
- Q101.** What is the name of the solution used to test for carbon dioxide?
- Q102.** Describe what happens to limewater when carbon dioxide is bubbled through it.
- Q103.** Why does limewater turn cloudy when carbon dioxide is present?
- Q104.** What gas turns damp litmus paper white?
- Q105.** What is the reason for dampening the litmus paper when testing for chlorine?
- Q106.** How does chlorine affect litmus paper?
- Q107.** What colour does lithium produce in a flame test?
- Q108.** What colour does sodium produce in a flame test?
- Q109.** What flame colour is observed for potassium compounds?
- Q110.** What flame colour is produced by calcium ions?
- Q111.** What is the flame colour for copper compounds?
- Q112.** Why might some flame colours be difficult to see in a sample with mixed ions?
- Q113.** What is the purpose of a flame test?
- Q114.** Why is it important to clean the wire loop before performing a flame test?
- Q115.** Name two metal ions that give a white precipitate when sodium hydroxide is added.
- Q116.** Which white precipitate dissolves in excess sodium hydroxide?
- Q117.** How would you distinguish between calcium and aluminium ions using sodium hydroxide?
- Q118.** What colour precipitate is formed when copper(II) ions react with sodium hydroxide?
- Q119.** What colour precipitate does iron(II) form with sodium hydroxide?
- Q120.** What colour precipitate does iron(III) form with sodium hydroxide?
- Q121.** How could you distinguish between iron(II) and iron(III) using sodium hydroxide?
- Q122.** What is the name of the solid formed when a metal ion reacts with sodium hydroxide?

- Q123.** Write a word equation for the reaction of copper(II) sulfate with sodium hydroxide.
- Q124.** Write a balanced symbol equation for the reaction of iron(II) sulfate with sodium hydroxide.
- Q125.** Write a balanced chemical equation for the reaction of aluminium nitrate with sodium hydroxide.
- Q126.** What is a precipitate?
- Q127.** What does it mean if a precipitate dissolves in excess sodium hydroxide?
- Q128.** How can you test whether a white precipitate is aluminium hydroxide?
- Q129.** What is the appearance of magnesium hydroxide when formed in a reaction?
- Q130.** How can you distinguish between magnesium and calcium ions using flame tests?
- Q131.** Why is it useful to use both flame tests and sodium hydroxide tests when identifying metal ions?
- Q132.** What safety precautions should be taken when using chlorine gas in a test?
- Q133.** What should be done if no flame colour is seen in a flame test?
- Q134.** Why must the wire used in a flame test be platinum or nichrome?
- Q135.** Describe how to carry out a flame test.
- Q136.** What would you observe if you added sodium hydroxide to a solution containing iron(III) ions?
- Q137.** How does the test for chlorine differ from the test for carbon dioxide?
- Q138.** Why can some metal hydroxides not be identified by colour alone?
- Q139.** What ion causes limewater to turn milky?
- Q140.** What gas is formed when calcium carbonate reacts with an acid?
- Q141.** Why is calcium hydroxide described as a test reagent?
- Q142.** What happens to litmus paper in the presence of an acidic gas like chlorine?
- Q143.** Why must the litmus paper be damp when testing for chlorine?
- Q144.** How would you test a solution for the presence of copper(II) ions?
- Q145.** What ion gives a green precipitate with sodium hydroxide?
- Q146.** Explain why flame colours are not reliable for samples with more than one metal ion.

- Q147.** What is the role of sodium hydroxide in ion identification?
- Q148.** Why is it important to use clean apparatus when testing for metal ions?
- Q149.** What would you expect to see when sodium hydroxide is added to magnesium chloride?
- Q150.** Suggest how a student could confirm that a white precipitate is not calcium hydroxide.
- Q151.** What gas is produced when a carbonate reacts with a dilute acid?
- Q152.** How can you test for the presence of carbon dioxide?
- Q153.** What happens to limewater when carbon dioxide is bubbled through it?
- Q154.** Which ion is tested using silver nitrate solution and dilute nitric acid?
- Q155.** What colour precipitate is formed when silver nitrate reacts with chloride ions?
- Q156.** What is the colour of the precipitate when silver nitrate reacts with bromide ions?
- Q157.** Which halide forms a yellow precipitate when tested with silver nitrate?
- Q158.** Why is dilute nitric acid added before silver nitrate in the halide test?
- Q159.** What is the purpose of adding dilute hydrochloric acid before testing for sulfate ions?
- Q160.** What colour precipitate indicates the presence of sulfate ions?
- Q161.** Which chemical is used with hydrochloric acid to test for sulfate ions?
- Q162.** What do all the halide ion tests have in common?
- Q163.** Why is it important to carry out ion tests in a specific order?
- Q164.** Why must a flame test be done before precipitation tests?
- Q165.** What is the general term for tests used to identify ions in a solution?
- Q166.** What is one limitation of using chemical tests to identify ions?
- Q167.** What is meant by the term 'instrumental method' in chemical analysis?
- Q168.** Give one advantage of instrumental methods over chemical tests.
- Q169.** Why are instrumental methods considered more accurate than chemical tests?
- Q170.** Why are instrumental methods faster than traditional chemical tests?
- Q171.** What is meant by sensitivity in the context of instrumental methods?

- Q172.** What is flame emission spectroscopy used for?
- Q173.** What is the role of the spectroscope in flame emission spectroscopy?
- Q174.** What does a line spectrum show?
- Q175.** How can a line spectrum help identify a metal ion?
- Q176.** How can the concentration of a metal ion be determined using flame emission spectroscopy?
- Q177.** What must be done to compare a sample spectrum to identify the metal ion?
- Q178.** Why is flame emission spectroscopy more useful than a flame test?
- Q179.** In what form must the sample be for flame emission spectroscopy?
- Q180.** What happens to the sample in the flame during flame emission spectroscopy?
- Q181.** How does the colour of the flame relate to the metal ion present?
- Q182.** What information is needed to interpret a line spectrum?
- Q183.** What does each line on the spectrum represent?
- Q184.** What is the advantage of using a reference spectrum when analysing results?
- Q185.** Which ion tests can be done using only one solution?
- Q186.** What result confirms the presence of iodide ions in a solution?
- Q187.** What precautions should be taken when using silver nitrate?
- Q188.** How can you tell if a compound contains sulfate ions?
- Q189.** What is observed if no sulfate ions are present in a test?
- Q190.** Why is hydrochloric acid used instead of nitric acid in the sulfate test?
- Q191.** What is a positive result in the carbonate test?
- Q192.** What would happen if you used hydrochloric acid with silver nitrate?
- Q193.** Why should flame tests be carried out with a clean wire?
- Q194.** How can you clean a wire loop for a flame test?
- Q195.** Which test could help identify a white precipitate of silver halide?
- Q196.** What is the colour difference between silver chloride and silver iodide?

Q197. Why is a reference chart needed in flame emission spectroscopy?

Q198. What might cause an incorrect reading in a flame emission spectroscopy test?

Q199. How can two different metal ions be distinguished using spectroscopy?

Q200. Why is it important to test for both anions and cations in an unknown compound?

GRADEUP