



**Topic Test: OxfordAQA**  
**International A level Chemistry**  
AS Physical Chemistry: Unit 2 content

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Time: **79 minutes**

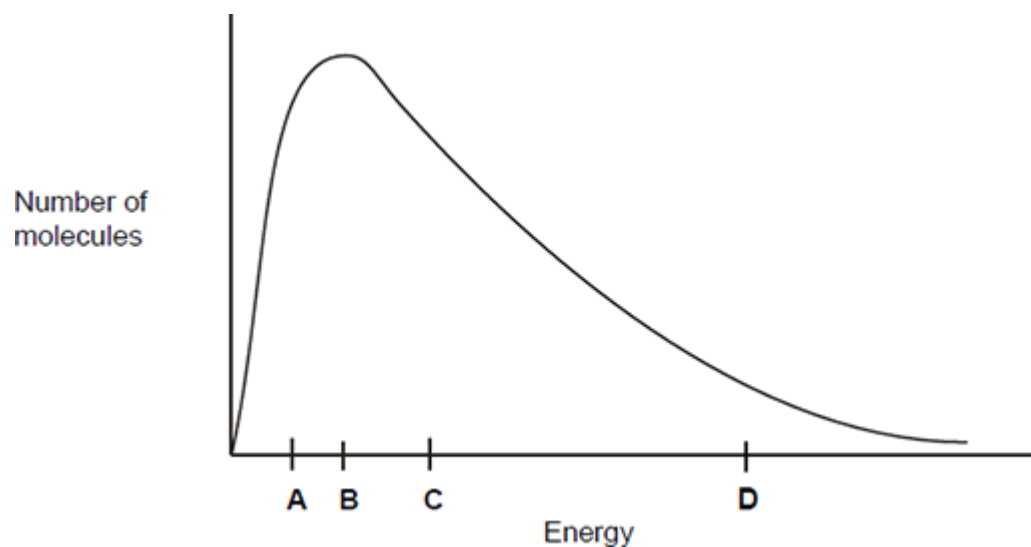
Marks: **73 marks**

Comments:

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1

This question is about the Maxwell–Boltzmann distribution of molecular energies in a sample of a gas shown in the following figure.



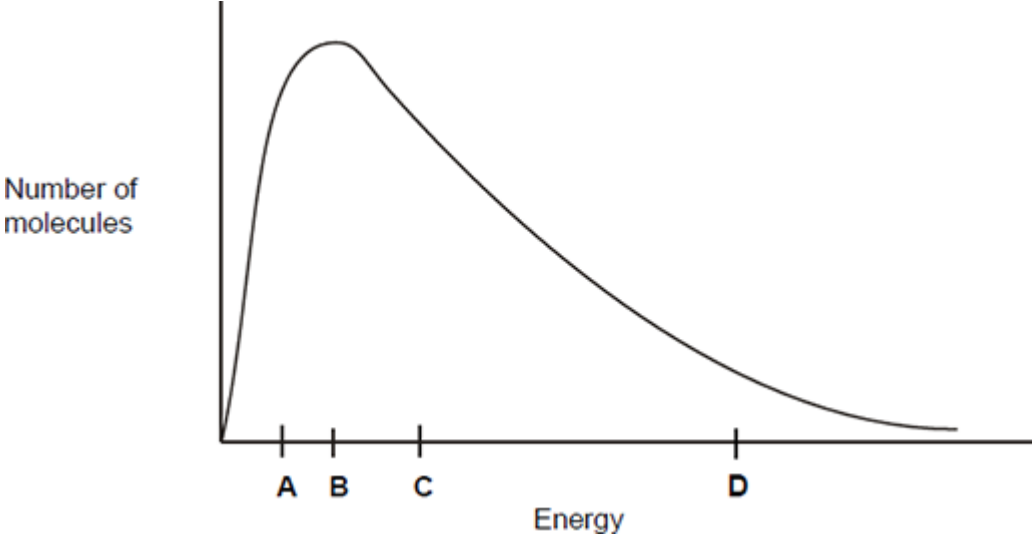
What does the area under the curve represent?

- A The total energy of the particles.
- B The total number of particles.
- C The number of particles that can react with each other.
- D The total number of particles that have activation energy.

(Total 1 mark)

2

This question is about the Maxwell–Boltzmann distribution of molecular energies in a sample of a gas shown in the figure below.



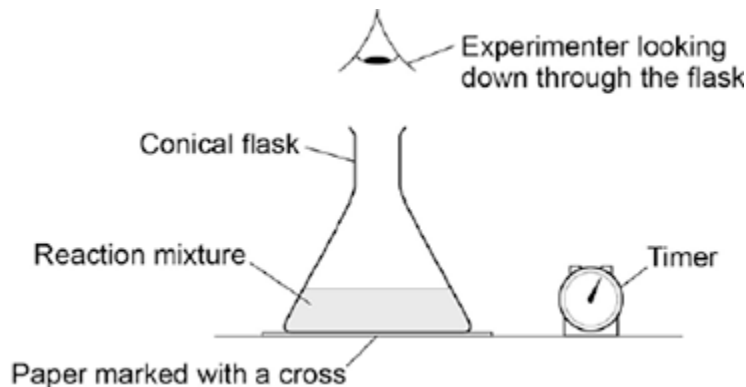
Which letter best represents the mean energy of the molecules?

- A
- B
- C
- D

(Total 1 mark)

3

The apparatus in the figure below was set up to measure the time taken for 20.0 cm<sup>3</sup> of sodium thiosulfate solution to react with 5.0 cm<sup>3</sup> of hydrochloric acid in a 100 cm<sup>3</sup> conical flask at 20 °C. The timer was started when the sodium thiosulfate solution was added to the acid in the flask. The timer was stopped when it was no longer possible to see the cross on the paper.



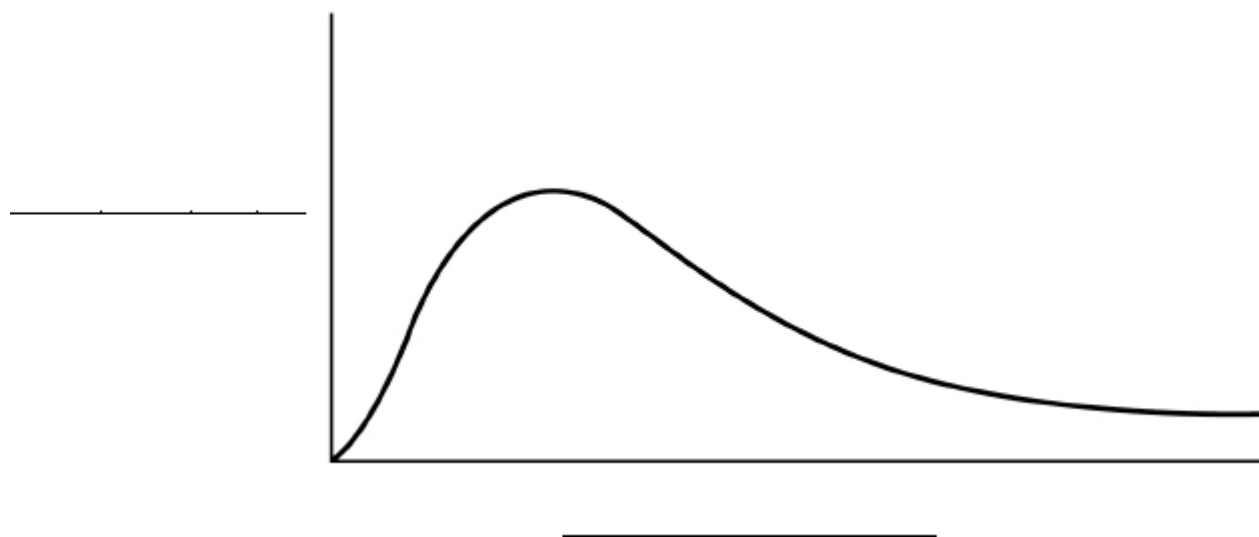
What is likely to decrease the accuracy of the experiment?

- A Rinsing the flask with acid before each new experiment.
- B Stirring the solution throughout each experiment.
- C Using the same piece of paper for each experiment.
- D Using different measuring cylinders to measure the volumes of acid and sodium thiosulfate.

(Total 1 mark)

4

The diagram below represents a Maxwell–Boltzmann distribution curve for the particles in a sample of a gas **G**, at a given temperature, at the start of a reaction.



(a) Label both axes on the diagram above.

(2)

(b) Give a reason why the curve starts at the origin.

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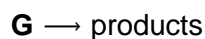
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(1)

(c) Draw on the diagram above a distribution curve for the same sample of gas **G** at a **lower** temperature.

(2)

(d) A flask contains gas **G** at temperature  $T$ .  
Gas **G** decomposes as shown in the equation.



At temperature  $T$ , only a few particles of **G** have the activation energy needed to decompose.

Explain why all of **G** will eventually decompose.

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(1)

(e) Explain why a small decrease in temperature can cause a large decrease in the rate of decomposition of gas **G**.

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(2)

(Total 8 marks)

5

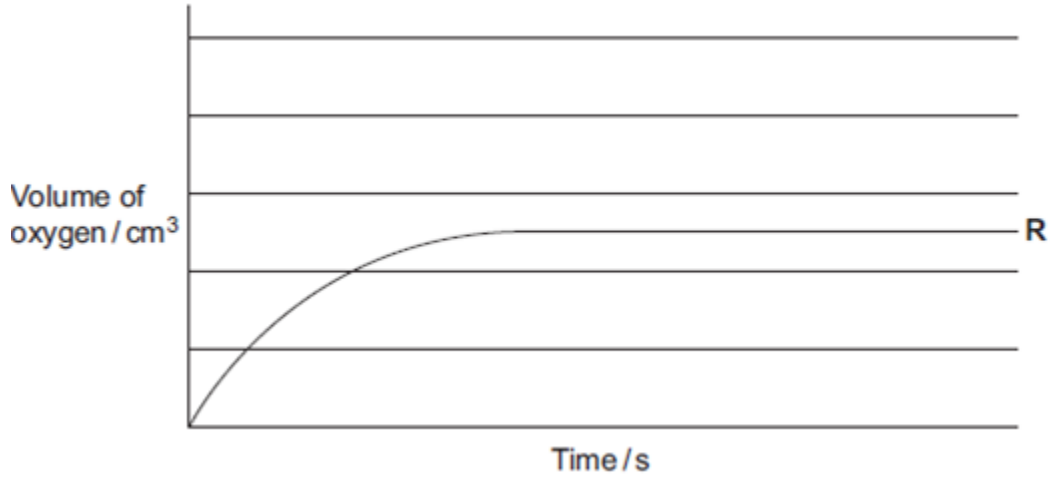
A student carried out an experiment to determine the rate of decomposition of hydrogen peroxide into water and oxygen gas.

The student used  $100 \text{ cm}^3$  of a  $1.0 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  solution of hydrogen peroxide at  $298 \text{ K}$  and measured the volume of oxygen collected.

Curve **R**, in each of **Figures 1, 2** and **3**, shows how the total volume of oxygen collected changed with time under these conditions.

- (a) Draw a curve on **Figure 1** to show how the total volume of oxygen collected will change with time if the experiment is repeated at  $298 \text{ K}$  using  $100 \text{ cm}^3$  of a  $2.0 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  solution of hydrogen peroxide.

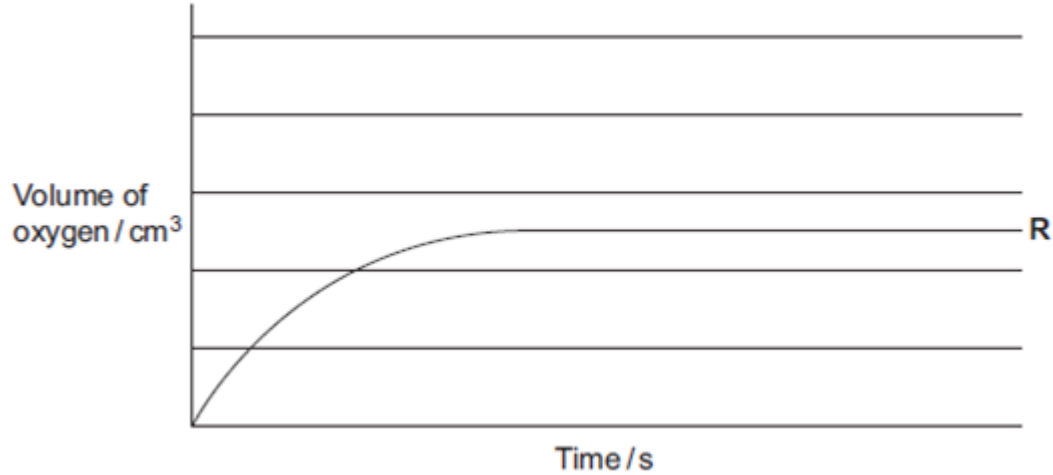
Figure 1



(2)

- (b) Draw a curve on **Figure 2** to show how the total volume of oxygen collected will change with time if the experiment is repeated at  $298 \text{ K}$  using  $100 \text{ cm}^3$  of a  $0.4 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  solution of hydrogen peroxide.

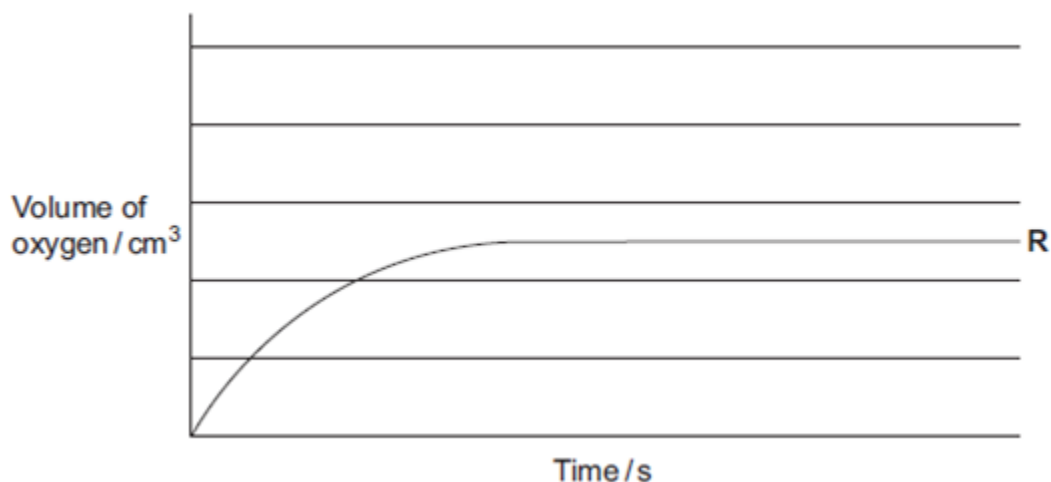
Figure 2



(2)

- (c) Draw a curve on **Figure 3** to show how the total volume of oxygen collected will change with time if the **original** experiment is repeated at a temperature higher than 298 K. You should assume that the gas is collected at a temperature of 298 K.

**Figure 3**



(2)

- (d) Explain why the slope (gradient) of curve **R** decreases as time increases.

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(2)

- (e) The student discovered that hydrogen peroxide decomposes at a faster rate when a few drops of aqueous hydrogen bromide are added to the solution. The student found on the Internet that this decomposition is thought to proceed in two steps as shown by the following equations.



- (i) Write an equation for the overall reaction.

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(1)

- (ii) Give **one** reason, other than the increase in rate of reaction, why the student was able to deduce that hydrogen bromide behaves as a catalyst in this two-step reaction.

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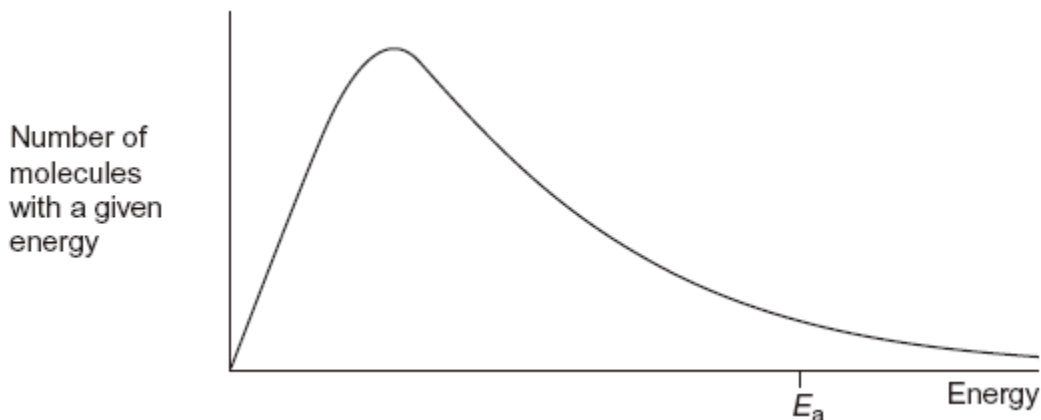
(1)

(Total 10 marks)

6

The diagram below shows a Maxwell–Boltzmann distribution for a sample of gas at a fixed temperature.

$E_a$  is the activation energy for the decomposition of this gas.



- (a) (i) On this diagram, sketch the distribution for the same sample of gas at a higher temperature.

(2)

- (ii) With reference to the Maxwell–Boltzmann distribution, explain why an increase in temperature increases the rate of a chemical reaction.

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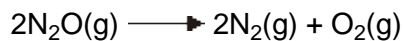
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(2)

- (b) Dinitrogen oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) is used as a rocket fuel. The data in the table below show how the activation energy for the decomposition of dinitrogen oxide differs with different catalysts.



	E <sub>a</sub> / kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>
Without a catalyst	245
With a gold catalyst	121
With an iron catalyst	116
With a platinum catalyst	136

- (i) Use the data in the table to deduce which is the most effective catalyst for this decomposition.

\_\_\_\_\_

(1)

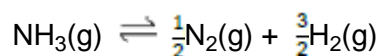
- (ii) Explain how a catalyst increases the rate of a reaction.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2)

(Total 7 marks)

- 7** When one mole of ammonia is heated to a given temperature, 50% of the compound dissociates and the following equilibrium is established.



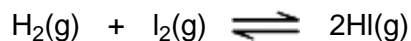
What is the total number of moles of gas present in this equilibrium mixture?

- A 1.5
- B 2.0
- C 2.5
- D 3.0

(Total 1 mark)

**8**

- (a) A mixture of 1.50 mol of hydrogen and 1.20 mol of gaseous iodine was sealed in a container of volume  $V \text{ dm}^3$ . The mixture was left to reach equilibrium as shown by the following equation.



At a given temperature, the equilibrium mixture contained 2.06 mol of hydrogen iodide.

- (i) Calculate the amounts, in moles, of hydrogen and of iodine in the equilibrium mixture.

Moles of hydrogen \_\_\_\_\_

Moles of iodine \_\_\_\_\_

**(2)**

- (ii) Write an expression for the equilibrium constant ( $K_c$ ) for this equilibrium.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**(1)**

- (iii)  $K_c$  for this equilibrium has no units.  
State why the units cancel in the expression for  $K_c$

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**(1)**

- (iv) A different mixture of hydrogen, iodine and hydrogen iodide was left to reach equilibrium at the same temperature in a container of the same volume. This second equilibrium mixture contained 0.38 mol of hydrogen, 0.19 mol of iodine and 1.94 mol of hydrogen iodide.

Calculate a value for  $K_c$  for this equilibrium at this temperature.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

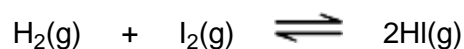
**(2)**

- (b) This question concerns changes made to the four equilibria shown in parts (b)(i) to (b)(iv). In each case, use the information in the table to help you choose from the letters **A** to **E** the best description of what happens as a result of the change described. Write your answer in the box.

Each letter may be used once, more than once or not at all.

	Position of equilibrium	Value of equilibrium constant, $K_c$
<b>A</b>	remains the same	same
<b>B</b>	moves to the right	same
<b>C</b>	moves to the left	same
<b>D</b>	moves to the right	different
<b>E</b>	moves to the left	different

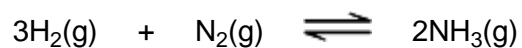
- (i) Change: increase the temperature of the equilibrium mixture at constant pressure.



$$\Delta H^\ominus = +52 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

(1)

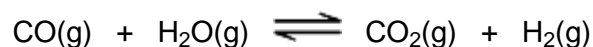
- (ii) Change: increase the total pressure of the equilibrium mixture at constant temperature.



$$\Delta H^\ominus = -92 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

(1)

- (iii) Change: add a catalyst to the equilibrium mixture at constant temperature.



$$\Delta H^\ominus = -41 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

(1)

- (iv) Change: add chlorine to the equilibrium mixture at constant temperature.



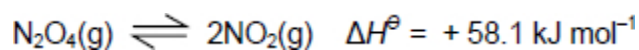
$$\Delta H^\ominus = +93 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

(1)

**(Total 10 marks)**

**9**

This question is about the equilibrium between  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{NO}_2$



- (a) A 25.2 g sample of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  was heated in a closed flask.  
At equilibrium, the mixture was found to contain 0.220 mol of  $\text{NO}_2$

Calculate the amount, in moles, of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  in the 25.2 g sample.  
Calculate the amount, in moles, of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  in the equilibrium mixture.  
Show your working.

Amount of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  in the 25.2 g sample = \_\_\_\_\_ mol

Amount of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  in the equilibrium mixture = \_\_\_\_\_ mol

(3)

- (b) In a different experiment, a sample of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  was heated in a closed flask of volume 5.00  $\text{dm}^3$ . The equilibrium mixture formed at temperature  $T$  contained 0.230 mol of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  and 0.542 mol of  $\text{NO}_2$

Write an expression for the equilibrium constant  $K_c$  for this reaction.  
Calculate a value for  $K_c$  at temperature  $T$  and deduce its units.

$K_c =$  \_\_\_\_\_ Units \_\_\_\_\_

(4)

(c) A student repeated the experiment in part (b) but at a temperature lower than  $T$ .

State and explain the effect of this lower temperature on the time taken to reach equilibrium and on the amount of  $\text{NO}_2$  formed in the equilibrium mixture.

Effect on time taken \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Effect on amount of  $\text{NO}_2$  \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

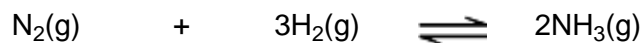
\_\_\_\_\_

(6)

(Total 13 marks)

10

Ammonia is manufactured by the Haber process in which the following equilibrium is established.



(a) Give **two** features of a reaction at equilibrium.

Feature 1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Feature 2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(2)

(b) Explain why a catalyst has no effect on the position of an equilibrium.

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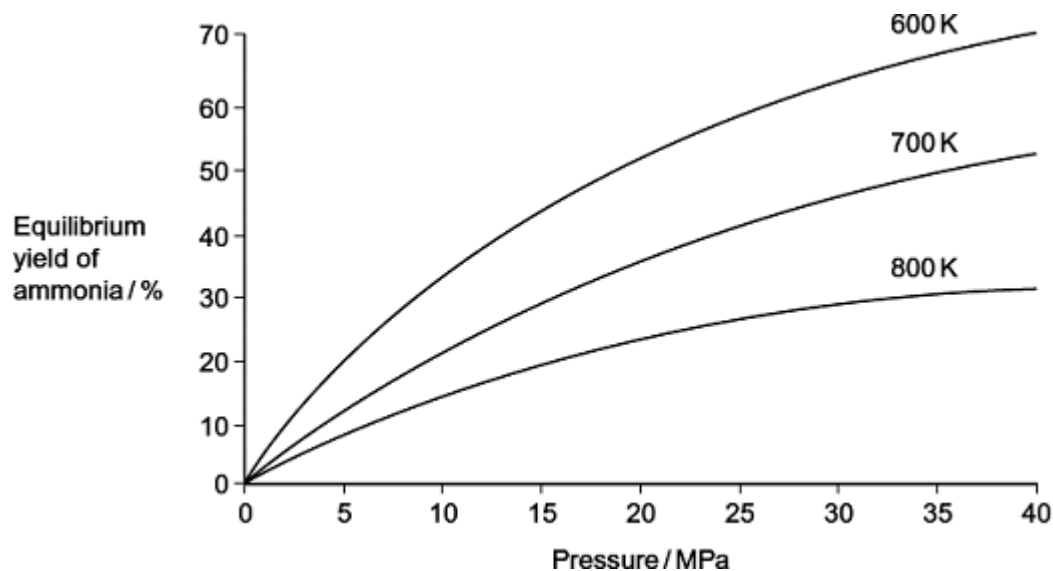
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(2)

(c) The diagram shows how the equilibrium yield of ammonia varies with changes in pressure and temperature.



(i) Use the diagram to state the effect of an **increase** in pressure at constant temperature on the yield of ammonia. Use Le Chatelier's principle to explain this effect.

Effect on yield \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

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(3)

- (ii) Use the diagram to state the effect of an **increase** in temperature at constant pressure on the yield of ammonia. Use Le Chatelier's principle to explain this effect.

Effect on yield \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

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(3)

- (d) At equilibrium, with a pressure of 35 MPa and a temperature of 600 K, the yield of ammonia is 65%.

- (i) State why industry uses a temperature higher than 600 K.

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(1)

- (ii) State why industry uses a pressure lower than 35 MPa. Do **not** include references to safety.

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(1)

(Total 12 marks)

11

When heated above 100 °C, nitrosyl chloride (NOCl) partly decomposes to form nitrogen monoxide and chlorine as shown in the equation.



- (a) A 2.50 mol sample of NOCl was heated in a sealed container and equilibrium was established at a given temperature. The equilibrium mixture formed contained 0.80 mol of NO.

Calculate the amount, in moles, of Cl<sub>2</sub> and of NOCl in this equilibrium mixture.

Moles of Cl<sub>2</sub> \_\_\_\_\_

Moles of NOCl \_\_\_\_\_

(2)

- (b) A different mixture of NOCl, NO and Cl<sub>2</sub> reached equilibrium in a sealed container of volume 15.0 dm<sup>3</sup>. The equilibrium mixture formed contained 1.90 mol of NOCl and 0.86 mol of NO at temperature *T*.

The value of  $K_c$  for the equilibrium at temperature *T* was  $7.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ .

- (i) Write an expression for the equilibrium constant  $K_c$

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(1)

- (ii) Calculate the amount, in moles, of Cl<sub>2</sub> in this equilibrium mixture.

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(4)

(iii) Consider this alternative equation for the equilibrium at temperature  $T$ .



Calculate a value for the different equilibrium constant  $K_c$  for the equilibrium as shown in this alternative equation. Deduce the units of this  $K_c$

Calculation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Units \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**(2)**  
**(Total 9 marks)**

## Mark schemes

1	B	[1]
2	C	[1]
3	A	[1]
4	<p>(a) (y axis) %/fraction of particles/molecules/atoms</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(x axis) energy</p> <p>(b) no particles/molecules have no energy or all particles/molecules have some energy</p> <p>(c) curve should be higher and displaced to the left</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">curve must start at the origin and must not touch x axis and must only cross the drawn curve once</p> <p>(d) particles/molecules will gain/transfer energy when they collide</p> <p>(e) far fewer particles/molecules have energy <math>&gt; E_a</math></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(far) fewer collisions per second/per unit time <i>must mention frequency of collisions</i></p>	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>[8]</p>
5	<p>(a) <b>Award in either order for curve</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>“Steeper” requires line to be on the left of the original line, starting from the origin</i></p> <p><b>M1</b> curve is steeper than original and starts at the origin</p> <p><b>M2</b> curve levels at the top line on the graph</p> <p>(b) <b>Award in either order for curve</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>“Shallower” requires line to be on the right of the original line, starting from the origin</i></p> <p><b>M1</b> curve is shallower than original and starts at the origin</p> <p><b>M2</b> curve levels at the first line on the graph</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2</p>

- (c) **M1** curve would be steeper than original  
*“Steeper” requires line to be on the left of the original line, starting from the origin*

**M2** curve levels at the same original volume of O<sub>2</sub>

2

- (d) **M1** The (concentration / amount of) H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or reactant falls / decreases / used up  
*Mark independently*

**OR**

The number of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or reactant molecules/ particles falls / decreases

**M2**

The rate of reaction / rate of decomposition / rate of formation of oxygen / frequency of collisions / (effective) collisions in a given time decreases / is slower

2

- (e) (i) **2H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> → 2H<sub>2</sub>O + O<sub>2</sub>**  
*Ignore state symbols*  
*Accept only this equation or its multiples*  
*Extra species must be crossed through*

1

- (ii) hydrogen bromide / it does not appear in the overall equation

**OR**

hydrogen bromide / it is not used up in the reaction / unchanged at the end of the reaction

**OR**

hydrogen bromide / it is regenerated / re-formed (in Step 2)

1

**[10]**

6

- (a) (i) **M1** The peak of the new curve is displaced to the right.
- M2** All of the following are required
- The new curve starts at the origin
  - The peak of the new curve is lower than the original
  - and the new curve only crosses the original curve once
  - and an attempt has been made to draw the new curve correctly towards the energy axis but not to touch the original curve
  - the new curve must not start to diverge from the original curve
- M1 is low demand*  
*M2 is higher demand.*

2

- (ii) **M1** Increase in the number/proportion of molecules with  $E \geq E_a$
- OR more molecules have  $E \geq E_a$
- OR more molecules have sufficient energy to react

**M2** More effective/productive/successful collisions  
*Ignore "molecules have more energy"*  
*Ignore "more energetic collisions"*  
*Ignore "molecules gain activation energy"*  
*Ignore "more collisions"*  
*Accept "particles" for "molecules" but NOT "atoms"*  
*Ignore "chance of collision"; this alone does not gain M2*

2

- (b) (i) Iron **OR** Fe

1

- (ii) **M1** Catalysts provide an alternative route/pathway/mechanism
- OR**

(in this case) surface adsorption/surface reaction occurs.  
*For M1, not simply "provides a surface" alone*

**M2** that has a lower activation energy

**OR**

lowers the activation energy

*For M2, the candidate may use a definition of activation energy without referring to the term*

2

[7]

7

A

[1]

8

(a) (i) mol H<sub>2</sub> = 0.47

1

mol I<sub>2</sub> = 0.17

*If answers reversed, ie*

*mol H<sub>2</sub> = 0.17*

*mol I<sub>2</sub> = 0.47*

*then allow one mark (for second answer).*

1

(ii) 
$$\frac{[\text{HI}]^2}{[\text{H}_2][\text{I}_2]}$$

Penalise expression containing V

But mark on in (a)(iv)

**Penalise missing square brackets in this part**  
**(and not elsewhere in paper) but mark on in (a)(iv)**

1

(iii) equal number of moles (on each side of equation)

**OR**

equal moles (top and bottom of K<sub>c</sub> expression)

1

(iv)

$$\frac{[1.94]^2}{[0.38][0.19]}$$

Ignore V

*If K<sub>c</sub> wrong in (a)(ii) (wrong powers or upside down etc) no marks here*

1

= 52(.1)

1

(b) (i) **D**

1

(ii) **B**

1

(iii) **A**

1

(iv) **C**

1

[10]

9

(a)  $25.2 \div 92(.0) = 0.274 \text{ mol}$

1

$(0.220 \div 2 =) 0.110 \text{ moles } \text{N}_2\text{O}_4 \text{ used}$

1

$(0.274 - 0.110 =) 0.164 \text{ mol } \text{N}_2\text{O}_4 \text{ left}$

*This also scores M2*

1

(b)  $K_c = \frac{[\text{NO}_2]^2}{[\text{N}_2\text{O}_4]}$

1

$= \frac{(0.542 \div 5.00)^2}{(0.230 \div 5.00)}$

1

$= 0.255$

*If not divided by volume then can only score M1 and M4*

1

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

1

(c) Takes longer time

*M1 – answer must refer to time (not rate). If dec rate seen then do not allow M1 but mark on*

1

Particles have less energy and collide less frequently

1

Fewer particles or fewer collisions have energy above activation energy

1

Smaller amount

*M4 allow 'lower yield' or 'decreased yield'*

1

Reaction is endothermic

1

Equilibrium moves in the reverse/exothermic direction to produce heat/oppose the decrease in temperature

1

[13]

(a) **In either order**

*For M1 accept [ ] for concentration*

**M1** Concentrations (of reactants and products) remain or stay constant / the same

*NOT “equal concentrations” and NOT “concentration(s) is / are the same”*

**M2** Forward rate = Reverse / backward rate

*NOT “amount”*

*Ignore “dynamic” and ignore “speed”*

*Ignore “closed system”*

*It is possible to score both marks under the heading of a single feature*

2

(b) **M1** Catalysts increase rate of / speed up both forward and reverse / backward reactions

*If M1 is given as “no effect” / “no change” then CE= 0 for clip*

**M2** increase in rate / affect on rate / speed is equal / the same

*Ignore references to “decrease in rate”*

2

(c) (i) **M1** (The yield) increases / goes up / gets more

*If M1 is given as “decreases” / “no effect” / “no change” then CE= 0 for clip, but mark on from a blank.*

**M2** There are more moles / molecules (of gas) on the left / of reactants

*Ignore “volumes”, “articles” “atoms” and “species” for M2*

**OR** fewer moles / molecules (of gas) on the right / products

**OR** there are 4 moles / molecules (of gas) on the left and 2 moles / molecules on the right.

**OR** (equilibrium) shifts / moves to the side with less moles / molecules

**M3 Can only score M3 if M2 is correct**

The equilibrium shifts / moves (from left to right) to oppose the increase in pressure

*For M3, not simply “to oppose the change”*

*For M3 credit the equilibrium shifts / moves to lower / decrease the pressure*

*(There must be a specific reference to the change that is opposed)*

3

(ii) **M1** The yield decreases / goes down / gets less  
*If M1 is given as "increase" / "no effect" / "no change" then CE= 0 for clip, but mark on from a blank.*

**M2** (Forward) reaction is exothermic **OR** gives out / releases heat

**OR**

reverse reaction is endothermic **OR** takes in / absorbs heat

**Can only score M3 if M2 is correct**

The equilibrium shifts / moves (from right to left) to oppose the increase in temperature

*For M3, not simply "to oppose the change"*

*For M3 credit the equilibrium shifts / moves*

*to absorb the heat OR*

*to cool the reaction OR*

*to lower the temperature*

*(There must be a specific reference to the change that is opposed)*

3

(d) (i) Must be comparative

*Credit correct reference to rate being too (s)low / (s)lower at temperatures less than 600 K*

Higher rate of reaction

**OR** increase / speed up the rate (of reaction)

*Ignore statements about the "yield of ammonia"*

**OR** Gets to equilibrium faster/ quicker

**OR** faster or quicker rate / speed of attainment of equilibrium

1

(ii) Less electrical pumping cost

*Not just "less expensive" alone*

**OR**

*Not just "less energy or saves energy" alone*

Use lower pressure equipment / valves / gaskets / piping etc.

*Credit correct qualified references to higher pressures*

**OR**

Uses less expensive equipment

*Ignore references to safety*

1

[12]

**11**(a)  $\text{Cl}_2$  0.4

1

NOCl 1.7

1

(b) (i) 
$$K_c = \frac{[\text{NO}]^2 [\text{Cl}_2]}{[\text{NOCl}]^2}$$

*Penalise expression containing V  
Allow ( ) here, but must have all brackets.  
If  $K_c$  expression wrong, max 2 in (b)(ii) for  
M1 for correct rearrangement of their  $K_c$  and  
M4 for multiplying by 15*

1

(ii) M1 
$$[\text{Cl}_2] = K_c \times \frac{[\text{NOCl}]^2}{[\text{NO}]^2}$$

*Mark is for rearrangement of correct  $K_c$  expression.  
If  $K_c$  rearrangement wrong, can only score max 2 for:  
M3 and M4*

1

M2

$$[\text{Cl}_2] = \frac{(7.4 \times 10^{-3}) \times (1.90/15)^2}{(0.86/15)^2} \left( = \frac{(7.4 \times 10^{-3}) \times (0.127)^2}{(0.0573)^2} \right)$$

*Rounding 1.90 / 15 wrongly to 0.126 is AE*

1

M3  $[\text{Cl}_2] = 0.0361$  to  $0.0365$  (min 2 sfs)

*Mark for correct calculation of  $[\text{Cl}_2]$*

1

M4 mol  $\text{Cl}_2 = 0.54$  to  $0.55$ 

**Correct answer scores 4 ignore working**

*Mark is for answer of (M3  $\times$  15)*

1

(iii)  $(\sqrt{7.4 \times 10^3}) = 0.086$

Allow 0.085 to 0.086)

Mark for answer **OR** conseq on their  $Cl_2$

$$K_c = \sqrt{\frac{M4}{15}} \times \frac{0.86}{1.90} = \sqrt{M4} \times 0.117$$

Or  $\sqrt{M3} \times 0.453$

1

mol<sup>1/2</sup> dm<sup>-3/2</sup> **OR** mol<sup>0.5</sup> dm<sup>-1.5</sup>

NOT  $\sqrt{\text{mol dm}^{-3}}$  nor  $(\text{mol dm}^{-3})^{1/2}$

1

[9]