



Cambridge International AS & A Level

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CHEMISTRY

9701/33

Paper 3 Advanced Practical Skills 1

October/November 2025

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: The materials and apparatus listed in the confidential instructions
Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen. You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- You may use a calculator.
- You should show all your working and use appropriate units.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The Periodic Table is printed in the question paper.
- Important values, constants and standards are printed in the question paper.
- Notes for use in qualitative analysis are provided in the question paper.

Session
Laboratory

For Examiner's Use	
1	
2	
3	
Total	

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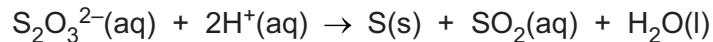
Quantitative analysis

Read through the whole method before starting any practical work. Where appropriate, prepare a table for your results in the space provided.

Show the precision of the apparatus you used in the data you record.

Show your working and appropriate significant figures in the final answer to **each** step of your calculations.

1 The thiosulfate ion, $S_2O_3^{2-}$, decomposes when an acid is added.



The rate of this reaction can be investigated by measuring how long it takes for the solid sulfur forming to obscure the print on the insert.

You will investigate how the concentration of the thiosulfate ion affects the rate of the reaction.

Note: A small amount of sulfur dioxide gas may be formed in the experiment. It is very important that you avoid inhaling any fumes. As soon as each experiment is complete, add the reaction mixture to the quenching bath and rinse the beaker thoroughly.

FA 1 is 0.100 mol dm⁻³ sodium thiosulfate, $Na_2S_2O_3$.

FA 2 is 2.00 mol dm⁻³ hydrochloric acid, HCl .

(a) Method

Experiment 1

- Fill a burette with **FA 1**.
- Run 40.00 cm³ of **FA 1** into the 100 cm³ beaker.
- Use the 25 cm³ measuring cylinder to measure 10.0 cm³ of **FA 2**.
- Add the **FA 2** to the **FA 1** in the beaker and start timing immediately.
- Stir the mixture once and place the beaker on the printed insert.
- View the printing on the insert from above through the solution.
- Stop timing when the print on the insert becomes obscured.
- Record this reaction time to the nearest second in the space for results.
- Empty the contents of the beaker into the quenching bath.
- Rinse and dry the beaker so it is ready to use in **Experiment 2**.

Experiment 2

- Refill the burette with **FA 1**.
- Fill the second burette with distilled water.
- Run 20.00 cm³ of **FA 1** into the 100 cm³ beaker.
- Run 20.00 cm³ of distilled water into the same beaker.
- Use the 25 cm³ measuring cylinder to measure 10.0 cm³ of **FA 2**.
- Add the **FA 2** to the **FA 1** in the beaker and start timing immediately.
- Stir the mixture once and place the beaker on the printed insert.
- View the printing on the insert from above through the solution.
- Stop timing when the print on the insert becomes obscured.
- Record this reaction time to the nearest second in the space for results.
- Empty the contents of the beaker into the quenching bath.
- Rinse and dry the beaker so it is ready to use in the next experiment.





Experiments 3–5

- Carry out three further experiments to investigate how using different volumes of **FA 1** affects the reaction time.

Note: the combined volumes of **FA 1** and distilled water must always be 40.00 cm³. Do not use a volume of **FA 1** that is less than 15.00 cm³.

Record all your results in a table. You should include the volume of **FA 1**, the volume of distilled water, the reaction time and the reaction rate for each of your five experiments.

The rate of reaction can be calculated using the following formula.

$$\text{rate} = \frac{1000}{\text{reaction time}}$$

Results

I	
II	
III	
IV	
V	
VI	
VII	
VIII	

[8]

(b) (i) On the grid in Fig. 1.1, plot the rate (y-axis) against the volume of **FA 1** (x-axis). Start each axis at the origin (0, 0).

Ring any anomalous points. Draw a line of best fit.



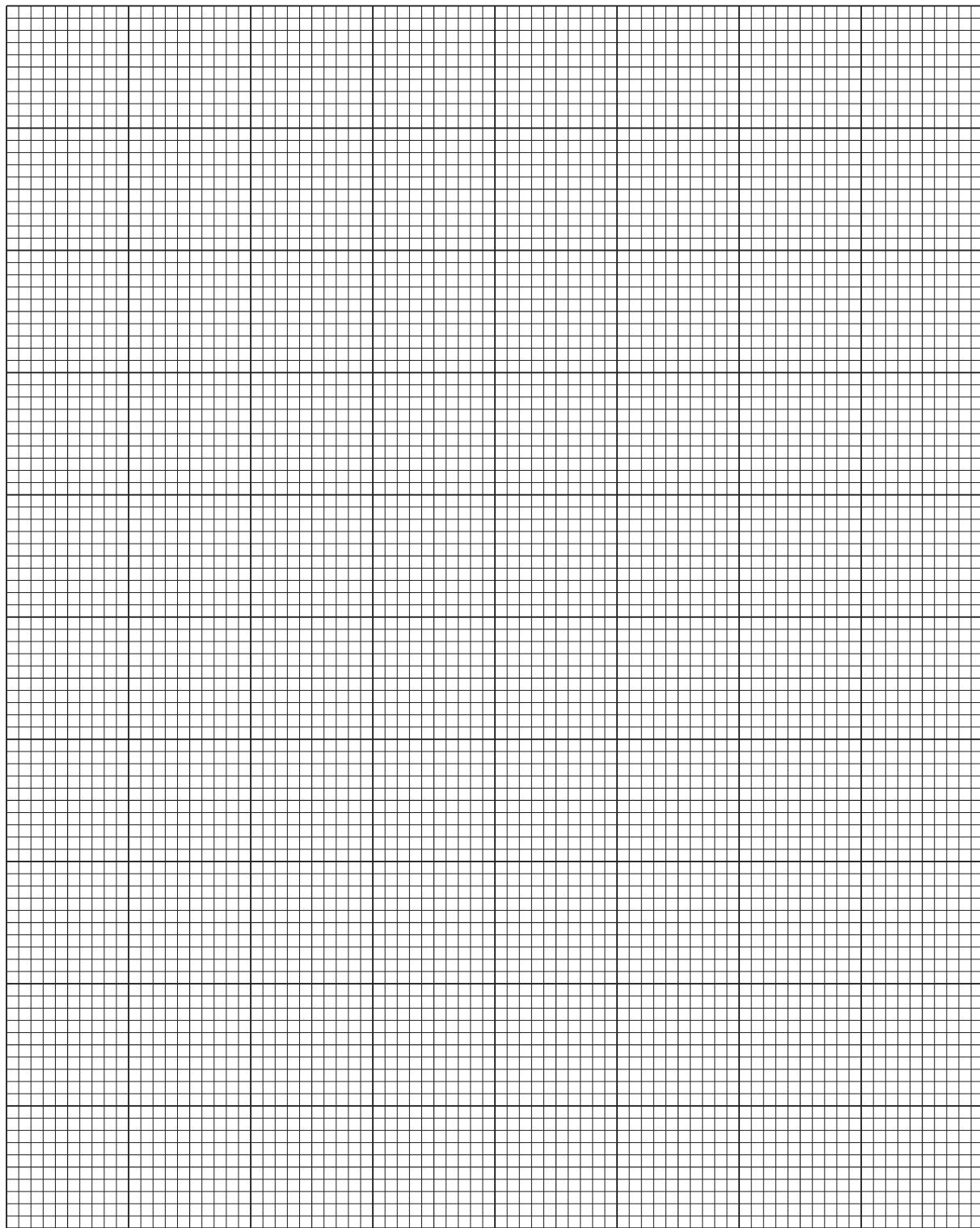


Fig. 1.1

I	
II	
III	

[3]

[Turn over]



(ii) Use your graph in Fig. 1.1 to determine the time it would take for the print to be obscured if 7.50 cm^3 of **FA 1**, 32.50 cm^3 of water and 10.0 cm^3 of **FA 2** had been used.
Show clearly on the graph how you worked out your answer.

time for printing to be obscured = s [2]

(c) A student carries out the same method as given in (a) but using a different concentration of acid. The student's calculated values for the rate are plotted on the grid in Fig. 1.2.

rate vs volume of **FA 1**

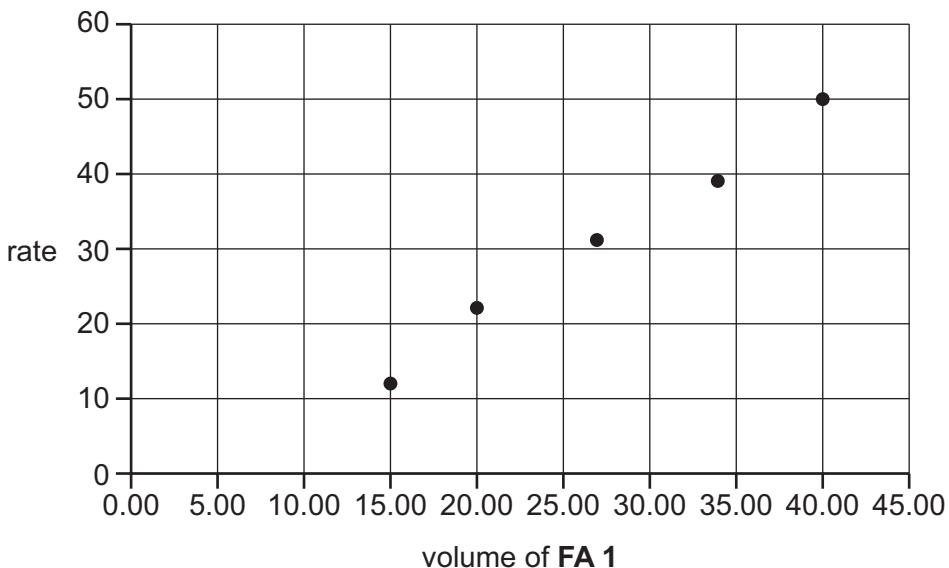


Fig. 1.2

State whether the student's results show that the rate is directly proportional to the volume of **FA 1** used.

Explain your answer.

.....
..... [2]

[Total: 15]



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2 When hydrated sodium thiosulfate is dissolved in water the temperature of the liquid changes. You will carry out an experiment to determine the enthalpy change, ΔH , when one mole of hydrated sodium thiosulfate dissolves in water.

FA 3 is hydrated sodium thiosulfate, $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

(a) Method

- Support the cup in the 250 cm^3 beaker.
- Use the 50 cm^3 measuring cylinder to transfer 30.0 cm^3 of distilled water into the cup.
- Measure the temperature of the water in the cup. Record this in the space for results.
- Weigh the container with **FA 3**. Record the mass.
- Tip all the **FA 3** into the cup.
- Stir the mixture until the minimum temperature is obtained. Record this temperature.
- Weigh the container with any residual **FA 3**. Record the mass.
- Calculate and record the mass of **FA 3** added.
- Calculate and record the temperature change.

Results

I	
II	
III	
IV	

[4]

(b) Calculations

(i) Calculate the amount, in mol, of hydrated sodium thiosulfate added.

$$\text{amount of } \text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O} = \dots \text{ mol} \quad [1]$$

(ii) Calculate the energy change, in J, in your experiment.

$$\text{energy change} = \dots \text{ J} \quad [1]$$

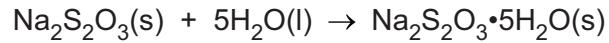


(iii) Calculate the enthalpy change, ΔH , in kJ mol^{-1} , when 1.00 mol of hydrated sodium thiosulfate dissolves in water. Show your working.

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

sign *value* [1]

(c) The value calculated in (b)(iii) can be used to determine the enthalpy change, ΔH_r , for the following reaction.



Outline the method of one further experiment you would need to carry out to obtain the data necessary to calculate the value of ΔH_r .

Show how you would use your results from this experiment and (b)(iii) to calculate ΔH_r .

Do **not** carry out your experiment.

method

.....

.....

calculation

.....

[4]

[Total: 11]





Qualitative analysis

For each test you should record all your observations in the spaces provided.

Examples of observations include:

- colour changes seen
- the formation of any precipitate and its solubility (where appropriate) in an excess of the reagent added
- the formation of any gas and its identification (where appropriate) by a suitable test.

You should record clearly at what stage in a test an observation is made.

Where no change is observed, you should write 'no change'.

Where reagents are selected for use in a test, the name or correct formula of the element or compound must be given.

If any solution is warmed, a boiling tube must be used. If a solid is heated, a hard-glass test-tube must be used.

Rinse and reuse test-tubes and boiling tubes where possible.

No additional tests should be attempted.

3 Half-fill the 250 cm³ beaker with water and place it on a tripod and gauze. Heat the water until boiling then switch off your Bunsen burner. This will be your hot water bath for use in **(b)(i)**. Start **(a)(i)** while the water is heating.

(a) **FA 4** is an aqueous solution containing three ions. One ion is **not** listed in the Qualitative analysis notes. **FA 5** is an aqueous solution containing two ions. The cation in **FA 5** is listed in the Qualitative analysis notes. The anions in both **FA 4** and **FA 5** contain sulfur.

(i) Carry out the following tests using a 1 cm depth of either **FA 4** or **FA 5** in a test-tube. Record your observations in Table 3.1.



Table 3.1

test	observations	
	FA 4	FA 5
Test 1 Add aqueous sodium hydroxide.		
Test 2 Add aqueous ammonia.		
Test 3 Add aqueous sodium carbonate.		
Test 4 Add aqueous barium chloride or aqueous barium nitrate.		
Test 5 Add acidified aqueous potassium manganate(VII).		

[5]

(ii) From your observations in (a)(i), deduce the identities of the ions present in **FA 4** and **FA 5**. Give the formula of each ion in Table 3.2. If you are unable to identify an ion write 'unknown'.

Table 3.2

ions present	FA 4	FA 5
cations		
anions		

[3]





(b) (i) Both **FA 6** and **FA 7** are one of propan-1-ol, propan-2-ol, methanoic acid or ethanoic acid. You will carry out tests to investigate the identities of **FA 6** and **FA 7**. For each test use a 1 cm depth of **FA 6** or **FA 7** in a test-tube. Record your observations in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3

test	observations	
	FA 6	FA 7
Test 1 Add a few drops of acidified aqueous potassium manganate(VII), then place the test-tube in the hot water bath.		
Test 2 Add a 2 cm depth of aqueous iodine followed by drops of aqueous sodium hydroxide until the colour just disappears. If no reaction is visible, place the test-tube in the hot water bath.		
Test 3 Add aqueous sodium carbonate.		

[3]

(ii) From your observations in (b)(i) deduce the identities of **FA 6** and **FA 7**. Give reasons for your answers.

FA 6 is

reasons

.....

FA 7 is

reasons

.....

[2]



(c) A student carrying out a similar set of tests identifies two unknown compounds to be ethanol and propanoic acid.

Write an equation for the reaction between these two compounds.

.....

[1]

[Total: 14]



Qualitative analysis notes

1 Reactions of cations

cation	reaction with	
	NaOH(aq)	NH ₃ (aq)
aluminium, Al ³⁺ (aq)	white ppt. soluble in excess	white ppt. insoluble in excess
ammonium, NH ₄ ⁺ (aq)	no ppt. ammonia produced on warming	—
barium, Ba ²⁺ (aq)	faint white ppt. is observed unless [Ba ²⁺ (aq)] is very low	no ppt.
calcium, Ca ²⁺ (aq)	white ppt. unless [Ca ²⁺ (aq)] is very low	no ppt.
chromium(III), Cr ³⁺ (aq)	grey-green ppt. soluble in excess giving dark green solution	grey-green ppt. insoluble in excess
copper(II), Cu ²⁺ (aq)	pale blue ppt. insoluble in excess	pale blue ppt. soluble in excess giving dark blue solution
iron(II), Fe ²⁺ (aq)	green ppt. turning brown on contact with air insoluble in excess	green ppt. turning brown on contact with air insoluble in excess
iron(III), Fe ³⁺ (aq)	red-brown ppt. insoluble in excess	red-brown ppt. insoluble in excess
magnesium, Mg ²⁺ (aq)	white ppt. insoluble in excess	white ppt. insoluble in excess
manganese(II), Mn ²⁺ (aq)	off-white ppt. rapidly turning brown on contact with air insoluble in excess	off-white ppt. rapidly turning brown on contact with air insoluble in excess
zinc, Zn ²⁺ (aq)	white ppt. soluble in excess	white ppt. soluble in excess

2 Reactions of anions

anion	reaction
carbonate, CO ₃ ²⁻	CO ₂ liberated by dilute acids
chloride, Cl ⁻ (aq)	gives white ppt. with Ag ⁺ (aq) (soluble in NH ₃ (aq))
bromide, Br ⁻ (aq)	gives cream/off-white ppt. with Ag ⁺ (aq) (partially soluble in NH ₃ (aq))
iodide, I ⁻ (aq)	gives pale yellow ppt. with Ag ⁺ (aq) (insoluble in NH ₃ (aq))
nitrate, NO ₃ ⁻ (aq)	NH ₃ liberated on heating with OH ⁻ (aq) and Al foil
nitrite, NO ₂ ⁻ (aq)	NH ₃ liberated on heating with OH ⁻ (aq) and Al foil; decolourises acidified aqueous KMnO ₄
sulfate, SO ₄ ²⁻ (aq)	gives white ppt. with Ba ²⁺ (aq) (insoluble in excess dilute strong acids); gives white ppt. with high [Ca ²⁺ (aq)]
sulfite, SO ₃ ²⁻ (aq)	gives white ppt. with Ba ²⁺ (aq) (soluble in excess dilute strong acids); decolourises acidified aqueous KMnO ₄
thiosulfate, S ₂ O ₃ ²⁻ (aq)	gives off-white/pale yellow ppt. slowly with H ⁺





3 Tests for gases

gas	test and test result
ammonia, NH_3	turns damp red litmus paper blue
carbon dioxide, CO_2	gives a white ppt. with limewater
hydrogen, H_2	'pops' with a lighted splint
oxygen, O_2	relights a glowing splint

4 Tests for elements

element	test and test result
iodine, I_2	gives blue-black colour on addition of starch solution

Important values, constants and standards

molar gas constant	$R = 8.31 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Faraday constant	$F = 9.65 \times 10^4 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$
Avogadro constant	$L = 6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
electronic charge	$e = -1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
molar volume of gas	$V_m = 22.4 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ at s.t.p. (101 kPa and 273 K) $V_m = 24.0 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ at room conditions
ionic product of water	$K_w = 1.00 \times 10^{-14} \text{ mol}^2 \text{ dm}^{-6}$ (at 298 K (25 °C))
specific heat capacity of water	$c = 4.18 \text{ kJ kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ ($4.18 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$)



The Periodic Table of Elements

1		2		Group																		
				1									2									
				H	He																	
				hydrogen 1.0	helium 4.0																	
3	Li	4	Be	beryllium 9.0									5	B	C	N	O	F	Ne			
													10	boron 10.8	carbon 12.0	nitrogen 14.0	oxygen 16.0	fluorine 19.0	neon 20.2			
11	Na	12	Mg	magnesium 24.3									13	Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar			
													19	Ca	Sc	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu		
													39	Ti	V	Cr	Co	Fe	Ni	Cr		
													37	Ca	Ti	Cr	Co	Fe	Ni	Cr		
													38	Sc	Sc	Mn	Fe	Co	Fe	Cr		
													39	Ca	Sc	Mn	Fe	Co	Fe	Cr		
													40	Ti	V	Cr	Co	Fe	Ni	Cr		
													41	Sc	Sc	Mn	Fe	Co	Fe	Cr		
													40	Ca	Sc	Mn	Fe	Co	Fe	Cr		
													42	Ti	V	Cr	Co	Fe	Ni	Cr		
													41	Sc	Sc	Mn	Fe	Co	Fe	Cr		
													43	Sc	Sc	Mn	Fe	Co	Fe	Cr		
													42	Sc	Sc	Mn	Fe	Co	Fe	Cr		
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