



GCSE Chemistry

Le Chatelier's Principle

Mark Scheme

Time available: 61 minutes

Marks available: 59 marks



Mark schemes

- 1.** (a) (equation contains the symbol) \rightleftharpoons
allow description of arrow / symbol 1
- (b) the mass of each substance does not change 1
- the rates of the forward reaction and reverse reaction are equal 1
- (c) the mixture will have become a paler purple 1
- (d) increases 1
must be in this order
- decreases 1
- increases 1
- (e) change the temperature
or
add a catalyst 1
ignore references to pressure
- [8]**
- 2.** (a) (steam / catalytic) cracking 1
allow thermal decomposition
- (b) high temperature 1
- steam / catalyst 1
allow a temperature in the range 300 – 900 °C



(c) **Level 3:** Relevant points (reasons/causes) are identified, given in detail and logically linked to form a clear account.

5–6

Level 2: Relevant points (reasons/causes) are identified, and there are attempts at logical linking. The resulting account is not fully clear.

3–4

Level 1: Points are identified and stated simply, but their relevance is not clear and there is no attempt at logical linking.

1–2

No relevant content

0

Indicative content

Rate

- higher temperature gives higher rate
- because more frequent collisions
- higher pressure gives higher rate
- because more frequent collisions
- a catalyst can be used to give a higher rate
- because the activation energy is reduced

Yield

- higher temperature gives lower yield
- because the reaction is exothermic
- higher pressure gives higher yield
- because there are more molecules on left hand side

Other factors

- higher temperatures use more energy so costs increase
- higher pressures use more energy so costs increase
- higher pressures require stronger reaction vessels so costs increase

Compromise

- chosen temperature is a compromise between rate and yield
- chosen temperature is a compromise between rate and cost (of energy used)
- chosen pressure is a compromise between rate and cost (of energy used)
- chosen pressure is a compromise between yield and cost (of energy used)

(d) fermentation

allow ferment(ing)

1

(e) warm

allow a value in the range 25 °C to 45 °C

1

anaerobic (conditions)

allow without oxygen / air

1



- (f) (conversion)
200 km = 200,000 m

1

$$\text{(moles =) (moles =) } \frac{200000 \times 1.95 \text{ (mol)}}{1300}$$

allow correct use of incorrect / no conversion for distance

1

$$= 300 \text{ (mol)}$$

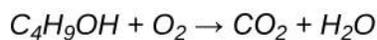
1

- (g) $C_4H_9OH + 6O_2 \rightarrow 4CO_2 + 5H_2O$

allow $C_4H_{10}O$ for C_4H_9OH

allow multiples

allow 1 mark for



with incorrect / no multipliers

ignore state symbols

2

[17]

3.

- (a) enzyme

1

- (b) 2.0×10^3 moles

1

- (c) smaller yield

allow less methanol is produced

1

(because) favours endothermic reaction

allow (because) favours reverse reaction

allow equilibrium / reaction shifts to the left

allow equilibrium / reaction shifts to reduce the temperature

ignore reference to forward reaction is exothermic

ignore references to rate

1



(d) (yield)
equilibrium position moves to the product side
allow equilibrium / reaction moves to the right
allow equilibrium / reaction shifts to reduce the pressure

1

(because) fewer molecules / moles / particles on product side
allow (because) fewer molecules / moles / particles on the right
allow (because) smaller volume on product side

1

(rate)
more collisions per unit time
allow increases collision frequency / rate
ignore more collisions alone
ignore faster collisions
*do **not** accept any indication of more energetic / forceful collisions*

1

(because) more molecules / particles per unit volume
allow (gas) molecules / particles closer together
ignore more molecules / particles alone

allow converse arguments

1

(e) provides different reaction pathway
allow provides a different mechanism / route

1

(which has a) lower activation energy

ignore references to collisions

1

(f) less energy is needed
allow reduces the temperature required
allow reduces costs
ignore references to pressure
ignore references to rate or time

1

(g) no effect / change

1

[12]



4.

(a) (i) yield increases

two marks are linked

1

because more (gaseous) reactant molecules / particles than (gaseous) product molecules / particles

accept 7 → 4 moles or volumes

ignore more reactants

accept fewer particles on the right

1

(ii) increased (rate) / faster / speeds up etc

two marks are linked

1

more collisions **or** increased concentration **or** particles closer together

greater chance of more successful collisions

1

(b) heat / high temperatures

*do **not** accept burn it ignore cracking / catalyst*

1

[5]



5.

(a) 2 marks for comments related to temperature

low / lower / lowest temperature (or 100 °C from graph)

ignore references to catalyst

1

any **one** from:

- (forward) reaction exothermic
or reverse reaction endothermic
- if the temperature is increased the yield of product will decrease **or**
reaction right to left
high temperature favours reverse reaction or reverse argument
the lower the temperature the greater the yield = 2 marks
2 marks for comments related to pressure

1

high / higher / highest pressure (or greater than 200 atm. from graph)

1

any **one** from:

- four reactant molecules but only two product molecules (owtte)
reverse reaction goes from 2 molecules / moles / volumes to 4
molecules / moles / volumes
- increase in pressure favours the reaction which produces
the least number of molecules
decrease in pressure favours the back reaction because it produces
the most molecules

1



(b) any **three** from:

- at low temperatures the reaction is too slow
- 450 °C gives a reasonable yield at a fast rate / compromise between yield and rate (*)
- 200 atm. gives a reasonable yield at a reasonable cost / safely / compromise between yield and cost / safety (*)
() or 450°C and 200 atm / these are compromise conditions for 1 mark*
- catalyst works better at higher temperature
- (very) high pressures could be dangerous (owtte)
safety factor
- (very) high pressures are expensive (owtte)
- (yield is not too important because) unreacted gases can be recycled

3

[7]

6.

(a) (i) high temperature

*accept temperature given if ≥ 400 °C
ignore value if "high" stated, unless silly value*

1

endothermic or reaction takes in energy
or ΔH is +ve

independent marks

1

(ii) low pressure

or up to and including 10 atmospheres

1

(low pressure) favours a reaction in which
more molecules are formed

*2 moles \rightarrow 4 moles
(2 molecules \rightarrow 4 molecules)*

independent marks

1

(iii) nickel **and** it is a transition / transitional
element / metal (owtte) **or** nickel **and**
variable oxidation state / number or it is
similar to other named transition elements
e.g. iron

1



(b) (i) (bonds broken =) 2005 (kJ)

1

(bonds formed =) 2046 (kJ)

1

energy change = $2005 - 2046 = (-)41$

for correct subtraction ignore sign

1

(ii) (exothermic)

if in part (b)(i) answer is not 41

answer is consequential on endothermic or exothermic shown

*accept correct reasoning for **incorrect** answer from (b)(i)*

energy given out forming new bonds

*do **not** accept energy needed to form new bonds*

1

greater than energy put in to break old bonds

*accept exothermic **and** more energy given out than taken in for 1 mark*

*accept negative value for energy change **or** energy in products less than energy in reactants for 1 mark*

1

[10]