



UNIVERSITY OF SIERRA LEONE

**CHEM 221**

FOURAH BAY COLLEGE

FIRST EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF B. Sc. HONOURS

LEVEL I

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION

**FRIDAY 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018 09.30 – 12.45**

**CHEM 221 – FURTHER INORGANIC CHEMISTRY**

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS PLUS 15 MINUTES READING TIME

INSTRUCTIONS:

- THIS PAPER IS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS: A, B AND C; ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION A AND A TOTAL OF THREE QUESTIONS FROM SECTIONS B AND C, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION

**SECTION A (ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS)**

**SECTION B (ANSWER 1 OR 2 QUESTIONS)**

**SECTION C (ANSWER 1 OR 2 QUESTIONS)**



## Section A

Answer all questions from this section.

- A1.** Aluminium and Thallium both react with dilute sulphuric acid to form salts.  
(a) Write equations for the reactions of aluminium and thallium with sulphuric acid.  
(b) State the oxidation number of aluminium and thallium in the salts formed and explain why they are different. [5]
- A2.**  $\text{SiCl}_4$  reacts rapidly with water but  $\text{CCl}_4$  does not.  
(a) Explain why this is the case.  
(b) Write an equation for the reaction of  $\text{SiCl}_4$  with water and state what you would observe. [5]
- A3.** (a) Draw the structure of a molecule of nitrogen and a molecule of phosphorus.  
(b) Explain why the structures are different. [5]
- A4.** Sulphur forms a large number of stable oxoanions. Draw the structures and give the formulae of any three oxoanions of sulphur. State the oxidation number of the sulphur in each ion.
- A5.** Hydrogen is sometimes placed in Group 1 of the Periodic Table and sometimes placed in a Group of its own.  
(a) Give three arguments for placing hydrogen in Group 1 of the Periodic Table.  
(b) Give three arguments against placing hydrogen in Group 1 of the Periodic Table. [5]
- A6.** Use VSEPR theory to determine the geometry around the central atom for each of the following molecules:  
(a)  $\text{XeF}_4$   
(b)  $\text{ICl}_3$   
(c)  $\text{PCl}_5$  [5]
- A7.** State, with an explanation, which of the following in each pair will have the larger bond angle:  
(a)  $\text{SF}_6$  and  $\text{XeF}_4$   
(b)  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$   
(c)  $\text{PCl}_3$  and  $\text{PCl}_5$  [5]
- A8.** What characteristics distinguish hard and soft acids and bases? [5]
- A9.** Classify the following species into hard and soft acids and bases:  $\text{H}^+$ ,  $\text{BF}_3$ ,  $\text{OH}^-$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$  [5]
- A10.** Draw the Born-Haber cycle for the formation of magnesium fluoride ( $\text{MgF}_2$ ) from its elements, stating each term used in the transformation process. [5]

## Section B

Answer one or two questions from this section.

**B1.** This question is about the chemistry of boron and aluminium.

- (a) Give two uses of aluminium and describe the properties of aluminium which make it so useful. (4)
- (b) The main source of aluminium is bauxite, an impure form of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ . During the extraction of aluminium, the bauxite ore is first purified. Aluminium is then extracted from the pure  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  by electrolysis.
- (i) Describe the main stages in the purification of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  from bauxite. Use equations to support your answer.
- (ii) State the property of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  which allows it to be purified in this way.
- (iii) State the main cost in the extraction of aluminium from its ore. (8)
- (c) Boron is also found naturally as  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$ . Explain why boron is not extracted from  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$  by electrolysis and suggest a suitable method for the extraction of boron from its oxide. Use an equation to support your answer. (3)
- (d) Boron fluoride and aluminium chloride both form simple molecules in the gas phase. The two molecules, however, have different structures.
- (i) Using diagrams to support your answer, draw the structures of boron fluoride and aluminium chloride in the gas phase.
- (ii) Explain why the two molecules have different structures. (7)
- (e)  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  and  $\text{NaBH}_4$  are both useful reducing agents in organic chemistry. Explain why. (3)

Total 25 marks

**B2.** This question is about the chemistry of carbon, silicon, tin and lead.

- (a) Pure carbon exists in the form of two stable allotropes – diamond and graphite. Pure silicon exists only as a structure analogous to diamond.
- (i) Briefly describe the structures of diamond and graphite.
- (ii) Explain why silicon does not form a structure similar to graphite. (7)
- (b) Carbon dioxide is a gas at room temperature. Silicon dioxide is a solid at room temperature with a high melting point. Carbon also forms a stable monoxide but silicon does not.
- (i) Describe the structures of carbon dioxide and silicon dioxide and explain why the melting points of the two substances are so different.
- (ii) Explain why carbon dioxide and silicon dioxide have different structures.
- (iii) Explain why silicon does not form a stable monoxide. (8)

Question B2 continues on the next page

- (c) Tin (IV) oxide and lead (IV) oxide react differently with concentrated hydrochloric acid.
- Write equations for the reactions of tin (IV) oxide and lead (IV) oxide with concentrated hydrochloric acid.
  - State the type of reaction occurring in each case.
  - Explain why tin (IV) oxide and lead (IV) oxide react differently with concentrated hydrochloric acid.
- (d) Write equations to show the half-reactions taking place in a lead-acid battery. Explain what these half-reactions show about the chemistry of lead.

(7)

(3)

Total 25 marks

**B3.** This question is about the chemistry of nitrogen, phosphorus and the halogens

- (a) Explain why phosphorus forms a stable pentachloride ( $\text{PCl}_5$ ) but nitrogen does not.
- (b) Phosphorus forms two stable oxides. Nitrogen forms a large number of oxides.
- Draw the structures of, and give the molecular formulae of, the two stable oxides of phosphorus.
  - Draw the structures of, and give the molecular formulae of, any two oxides of nitrogen.
  - Explain why the oxides of phosphorus and nitrogen have completely different structures.
  - Explain why nitrogen forms a large number of oxides.

(3)

(12)

(b) The following table shows some data on the halogens:

Halogen	First electron affinity ( $\text{kJmol}^{-1}$ )	X-X bond dissociation enthalpy ( $\text{kJmol}^{-1}$ )	H-X bond dissociation enthalpy ( $\text{kJmol}^{-1}$ )
Fluorine	-328	158	568
Chlorine	-349	243	432
Bromine	-325	193	366
Iodine	-295	151	298

- Explain the trends in the first electron affinities, X-X bond dissociation enthalpies and H-X bond dissociation enthalpies of the halogens.
- Explain why, in water, HCl is a strong acid but HF is a weak acid.

(10)

Total 25 marks

## Section C

Answer one or two questions from this section.

- C1.** (a) Write short notes on the following:
- (i) Energy changes in ionic bond formation
  - (ii) The Born-Haber cycles for the formation of sodium chloride (NaCl(s)) from its elements
  - (iii) Properties of ionic salts.
- (b) Use the cycle in B1(a)(ii) to calculate the lattice enthalpy of NaCl given the following data:  
Atomisation of Na:  $\Delta H^\circ = +108 \text{ kJmol}^{-1}$   
Atomisation of Cl:  $\Delta H^\circ = +122 \text{ kJmol}^{-1}$   
First ionisation of Na:  $\Delta H^\circ = +495 \text{ kJmol}^{-1}$   
First electron addition of Cl:  $\Delta H^\circ = -360 \text{ kJmol}^{-1}$   
Standard enthalpy of formation of NaCl(s):  $\Delta H^\circ = -411 \text{ kJmol}^{-1}$
- (c) Explain why  $\text{CaCl}_2$  exists but  $\text{CaCl}$  and  $\text{CaCl}_3$  do not.

Total 25 marks

- C2.** Simple molecules have simple formulae and shapes through, in certain cases, no obvious relationship exists between the two parameters. Scientists have, however, designed an easy theory for predicting simple molecular shapes. Fully discuss this statement using carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ), boron trifluoride ( $\text{BCl}_3$ ), ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ), water ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) and sulphur hexafluoride ( $\text{SF}_6$ ).

Total 25 marks

- C3.** Discuss the theory of hard and soft acids and bases (HSAB) under the following headings:
- (i) Definitions of Lewis acid-base theory
  - (ii) Recognition of acids and bases
  - (iii) Interpretation of reactions in terms of Lewis theory
  - (iv) HSAB principle
  - (v) Refinements to the HSAB theory
  - (vi) Application of the HSAB principle

Total 25 marks

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**