

## Topic 9: Acids and Bases (HL)

### Markscheme Notes:

1. A markscheme often has more marking points than the total allows. This is intentional. Do not award more than the maximum marks allowed for part of a question.
2. Each marking point has a separate line and the end is signified by means of a semicolon (;).
3. An alternative answer or wording is indicated in the markscheme by a slash (/) – either wording can be accepted.
4. Words in brackets ( ) in the markscheme are not necessary to gain the mark.
5. Words that are underlined are essential for the mark.
6. The order of marking points does not have to be as in the markscheme, unless stated otherwise.
7. If the candidate's answer has the same "meaning" or can be clearly interpreted as being of equivalent significance, detail and validity as that in the markscheme then award the mark. Where this point is considered to be particularly relevant in a question it is emphasized by writing **OWTTE** (or words to that effect).
8. Remember that many candidates are writing in a second language. Effective communication is more important than grammatical accuracy.
9. Occasionally, a part of a question may require an answer that is required for subsequent marking points. If an error is made in the first marking point then it should be penalized. However, if the incorrect answer is used correctly in subsequent marking points then **follow through** marks should be awarded. Indicate this with **ECF** (error carried forward).
10. Only consider units at the end of a calculation. Unless directed otherwise in the markscheme, unit errors should only be penalized once in the paper. Indicate this by writing **-1(U)** at the first point it occurs and **U** on the cover page.
11. Significant digits should only be considered in the final answer. Deduct **1 mark in the paper** for an **error of 2 or more digits** unless directed otherwise in the markscheme.

*e.g.* if the answer is 1.63:

2	<i>reject</i>
1.6	accept
1.63	accept
1.631	accept
1.6314	<i>reject</i>

Indicate the mark deduction by writing **-1(SD)** at the first point it occurs and **SD** on the cover sheet.

12. If a question specifically asks for the name of a substance, do not award a mark for a correct formula, similarly, if the formula is specifically asked for, do not award a mark for a correct name.
13. If a question asks for an equation for a reaction, a balanced symbol equation is usually expected, do not award a mark for a word equation or an unbalanced equation unless directed otherwise in the markscheme.
14. Ignore missing or incorrect state symbols in an equation unless directed otherwise in the markscheme.

Answers:

1. C [1]
2. D [1]
3. D [1]
4. (i)  $[CH_3CH_2COOH]$ :  
(1.6 – 0.80 =) 0.8 (mol dm<sup>-3</sup>);  
 $[CH_3OH]$ :  
(2.0 – 0.80 =) 1.2 (mol dm<sup>-3</sup>);  
 $[H_2O]$ :  
0.80 (mol dm<sup>-3</sup>); 3
- (ii) ( $K_c =$ );  
( $K_c =$ ) 0.7; 2  
*Allow 0.67.*  
*Award [1 max] for 0.83.* [5]
5. *Volume of KOH: 20 (cm<sup>3</sup>);*  
*Allow any value between 20 and 21 (cm<sup>3</sup>).*  
*pH at the equivalence point: 8.0–10.0;* 2 [2]
6. (i) HIn is a weak acid / weak base;  
HIn  $H^+ + In^-$ ;  
colour 1 colour 2  
*required.*  
*Award [2] for M2 alone.*  
in base equilibrium moves to right / in acid equilibrium moves to left; 3

- (ii) phenolphthalein;  
 indicator colour change occurs in range of pH at the equivalence  
 point / *OWTTE*; 2  
*M2 can be scored independently even if indicator is incorrect.* [5]
7. acidic;  
 $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+} \rightleftharpoons [\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5(\text{OH})]^{2+} + \text{H}^+$  /  
 $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons [\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5(\text{OH})]^{2+} + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ ; 2  
 Accept equations indicating the formation of  
 $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\text{OH})_2]^+$   
 $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3(\text{OH})_3]$   
 $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{OH})_4]^-$   
 Do not penalize  $\rightarrow$ . [2]
8.  $n(\text{HCl}) = (0.100 \times 0.50) = 0.050$  (mol);  
 $n(\text{NaOH}) = (0.200 \times 0.10) = 0.020$  (mol);  
 $n(\text{HCl})_{\text{remaining}} = (0.050 - 0.020) = 0.030$  (mol);  
 $[\text{HCl}] = 0.030 / 0.30 = 0.10$  (mol dm<sup>-3</sup>);  
 pH = 1.0; 5  
 Award [2 max] for just pH = 1.0 without working. [5]
9. A [1]
10. B [1]
11. C [1]
12.  $K_b = 10^{-4.75} / 1.78 \times 10^{-5}$ ;  
 $[\text{OH}^-] = 4.22 \times 10^{-4}$  (mol dm<sup>-3</sup>);  
 $\text{pOH} = -\log_{10}(4.22 \times 10^{-4}) = 3.37$  /  $[\text{H}^+] = 2.37 \times 10^{-11}$ ;

$$\text{pH} = 14 - 3.37 = 10.6;$$

4

*Award [2 max] for correct final answer if no working shown.*

**[4]**

13. (a) initial amount of  $\text{HCl} = 1.00 \times 10^{-2} = 2.50 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol}$   
**and** initial amount of  $\text{NH}_3 = 5.00 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol}$ ;  
final amount of  $\text{NH}_4^+$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  both =  $2.50 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol}$ ;  
final  $[\text{NH}_4^+]$  and  $[\text{NH}_3]$  both =  $3.33 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ ;  
 $[\text{OH}^-] = K_b \times = K_b = 10^{-4.75} / 1.78 \times 10^{-5}$ ;  
 $\text{pOH} = 4.75$  hence  $\text{pH} = 9.25$ ;  
*Award final two marking points if half-equivalence method used.*

5

- (b) a buffer solution resists a change in pH when small amounts of acid or base are added to it;  
*Do not accept description in terms of composition of buffer.*

when  $\text{H}^+$  is added it reacts with  $\text{NH}_3$  to form  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ;

when  $\text{OH}^-$  is added it reacts with  $\text{NH}_4^+$  to form  $\text{NH}_3$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ;

3

*Accept equations for last two marking points.*

**[8]**

14. (i)  $\text{NaCl}$  is the salt of a strong acid and a strong base / no hydrolysis with ( $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  ion);  
the  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  ions combine with  $\text{H}^+$  from water to form a weak acid leaving  $\text{OH}^-$  ions /  $\text{CO}_3^{2-} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HCO}_3^- + \text{OH}^-$  / *OWTTE*;

2

- (ii)  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  has a small radius and a high charge /  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  has a high charge density;  
it forms bonds with the  $\text{OH}^-$  ions from water leaving  $\text{H}^+$  ions / it increases the polarity of the O–H bond (in the water ligands) /  $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+} \rightarrow [\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5(\text{OH})]^{2+} + \text{H}^+$  etc;

2

**[4]**

15. B

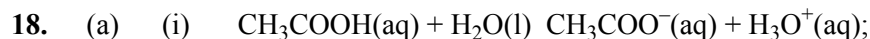
**[1]**

16. A

**[1]**

17. A

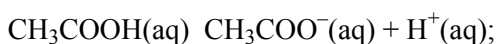
[1]



**OR**



**OR**



*Must include .*

*Ignore state symbols.*

1

(ii)  $K_a = 10^{-4.76} / 1.74 \times 10^{-5}$

$1.74 \times 10^{-5} = [\text{H}^+] = 0.00187;$

$\text{pH} = 2.73;$

*Award [3] for correct final answer, allow mark for correct conversion of  $[\text{H}^+]$  to pH even if  $[\text{H}^+]$  incorrect.*

3

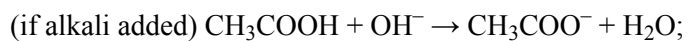
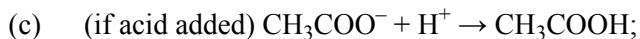
- (b) (initial) $[\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}] = 0.500 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and) eqm  $[\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}] = 0.200 \text{ mol dm}^{-3};$   
(initial) $[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-] = 0.300 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and) eqm  $[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-] = 0.300 \text{ mol dm}^{-3};$   
*Allow 0.02 moles and 0.03 moles instead of 0.200 and 0.300 mol dm<sup>-3</sup>.*

$[\text{H}^+] = K_a = 1.16 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol dm}^{-3} / \text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log;$

$\text{pH} = 4.94;$

*Award [3 max] for correct final answer if no working shown.*

4



*Explanation marks cannot be awarded without equations.*

*Accept  $\text{H}^+ + \text{OH}^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}$  as  $\text{OH}^-$  reacts with  $\text{H}^+$  in the buffer to form water.*

2

[10]

19. C

[1]

20. C [1]

21. A [1]

22. C [1]

23. (i)  $(K_w) = [H^+][OH^-]$  /  $(K_w) = [H_3O^+][OH^-]$ ; 1  
*Do not award mark if [ ] omitted or other brackets are used.*

(ii)  $[H^+]$  increases,  $[OH^-]$  decreases but still some present ( $K_w$  constant) /  
 $[OH^-]$  cannot go to zero as equilibrium present /  $[OH^-] =$ ,  
thus  $[OH^-]$  cannot be zero / *OWTTE*; 1

(iii) (changing T disturbs equilibrium) endothermic reaction / forward reaction  
favoured / equilibrium shifts to the right;  
to use up (some of the) heat supplied;  
 $K_w$  increases (as both  $[H^+]$   and  $[OH^-]$  increase); 3

(iv) (as  $[H^+]$  increases) pH decreases /  $pH < 7$ ;  
*No mark for more acidic.*  
inverse relationship between pH and  $[H^+]$  /  $pH = -\log[H^+] / pH = \log_{10}$ ;  
*Accept  $[H_3O^+]$  in place of  $[H^+]$ .* 2

[7]

24. (i) Acid:  $H_2PO_4^-$ ;  
(Conjugate) base:  $HPO_4^{2-}$ ;  
*No mark for  $NaH_2PO_4$  or  $Na_2HPO_4$ .*  
 $H_2PO_4^-(aq) \rightleftharpoons H^+(aq) + HPO_4^{2-}(aq)$ ;  
*Accept reverse equation or reaction with water.*  
*Ignore state symbols, but equilibrium sign is required.*  
*Accept  $OH^-$  (ions) react with  $H^+$  (ions) to form  $H_2O$ .* 3

- (ii) strong base/ $\text{OH}^-$  replaced by weak base ( $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^{2-}$ , and effect minimized) / strong base reacts with acid of buffer / equilibrium in (i) shifts in forward direction;  
 $\text{OH}^-(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-(\text{aq}) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) + \text{HPO}_4^{2-}(\text{aq});$   
*Ignore state symbols, accept equilibrium sign.*  
*Accept  $\text{OH}^-$  added reacts with  $\text{H}^+$  to form  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .* 2
- (iii) strong acid/ $\text{H}^+$  replaced by weak acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$ , and effect minimized) / strong acid reacts with base of buffer / equilibrium in (i) shifts in reverse direction;  
 $\text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{HPO}_4^{2-}(\text{aq}) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-(\text{aq});$   
*Accept reaction with  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ .*  
*Ignore state symbols.* 2
- 25.** (i)  $\text{NH}_3$  weak(er) base/partial dissociation;  
 $[\text{OH}^-] < 0.1(0) / \text{pOH} > 1$  (thus  $\text{pH} < 13 / \text{pH} + \text{pOH} = 14$ ); 2
- (ii) around  $\text{pH} = 5$ ;  
*Accept a value between 4 and 6.*  
 strong acid–weak base titration, (thus acidic) / at equivalence point,  $\text{NH}_4^+$  present is acidic /  $\text{NH}_4^+ \rightleftharpoons \text{NH}_3 + \text{H}^+$ ; 2
- (iii)  $\text{NH}_3(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) \rightleftharpoons \text{NH}_4^+(\text{aq}) + \text{OH}^-(\text{aq});$   
*Ignore state symbols, but equilibrium sign required.*  
 $K_b = ;$  2
- (iv)  $[\text{NH}_3] = [\text{NH}_4^+];$  1
- (v)  $\text{pOH} = 14.00 - 9.25 = 4.75;$   
 $\text{p}K_b (= \text{pOH}) = 4.75;$   
 $K_b = 1.78 \times 10^{-5};$   
*Ignore units.*  
*Award [3] for correct final answer.* 3
- (vi) optimum/most effective/highest buffer capacity/50 %–50 % buffer/equally effective as an acidic buffer and a basic buffer / *OWTTE*; 1

[11]

26. A [1]

27. C [1]

28. C [1]

29. C [1]

30. (a) (i) strong acid completely dissociated/ionized **and** weak acid partially dissociated/ionized;  
 $\text{HNO}_3(\text{aq}) \rightarrow \text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{NO}_3^-(\text{aq});$   
 $\text{HCN}(\text{aq}) \rightleftharpoons \text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{CN}^-(\text{aq});$   
*Insist on both arrows as shown.*  
*State symbols not needed.*  
*Accept  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ .* 3

(ii)  $K_a =$   
*Allow  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  instead of  $\text{H}^+$ .*  
 $K_a = 10^{-9.21} = 6.17 \times 10^{-10};$  2

(iii)  $[\text{H}^+] = ;$   
 $= 8.16 \times 10^{-6};$   
*Allow in the range  $8.13 \times 10^{-6}$  to  $8.16 \times 10^{-6}$ .*  
 $\text{pH} = 5.09;$

**OR**

$\text{pH} = (\text{p}K_a - \log[\text{HCN}]) / (9.21 - \log 0.108);$   
 $= 5.09;$

$[\text{H}^+] = 10^{-5.09} = 8.16 \times 10^{-6};$

*Allow in the range  $8.13 \times 10^{-6}$  to  $8.16 \times 10^{-6}$ .*

*If expression for  $[\text{H}^+]$  missing but both answers correct, award [3],  
if one answer correct, award [2].*

assume  $[\text{H}^+] \ll 0.108$  / negligible dissociation; 4



- (b) *With HNO<sub>3</sub>:*  
 faster rate of bubble/hydrogen/gas production;  
 faster rate of magnesium dissolving;  
 higher temperature change;  
*Accept opposite argument for HCN.*  
*Reference to specific observations needed.*  
*Award [1] if 2 observations given but acid is not identified.* 2 max
- (c) (i) (nitric acid) 7.5 cm<sup>3</sup>; 1
- (ii) not valid as hydrocyanic acid reacts with same volume/ 7.5 cm<sup>3</sup>; 1
- (iii) bromothymol blue / phenol red / phenolphthalein; 1
- (d) HNO<sub>3</sub>;  
 (higher conductivity for solutions with same concentration as) there are more ions in solution; 2 **[16]**
31. D **[1]**
32. C **[1]**
33. (a) (i)  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{COOH} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{COO}^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$   
 /  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{COOH} \rightleftharpoons \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{COO}^- + \text{H}^+$ ;  
*required for mark.* 1
- (ii) ( $\text{p}K_{\text{a}}$  for propanoic acid = 4.87)  
 $[\text{H}^+]^2 = 0.100 \times K_{\text{a}}$ ;  
 $[\text{H}^+] = 1.16 \times 10^{-3} \text{ (mol dm}^{-3}\text{)}$ ; 2
- (b) sketch to show:  
 indicator range between pH 3.0 and pH 4.6 (with “yellow” at pH 3.0 and “blue” at pH 4.6);

initial pH of acid at  $2.9 \pm 1.0$  (when no KOH has been added);  
 half-equivalence point (does not need to be named) at pH 4.9  
 when  $12.5 \text{ cm}^3$  of KOH have been added;  
 equivalence point at approx pH 8.5–9.0 when  $25.0 \text{ cm}^3$  of KOH(aq)  
 added;  
 upper part of curve from  $25.0\text{--}50.0 \text{ cm}^3$  added identical to original  
 curve;  
*Award [1] each for any three points.*

3 max

[6]

34. C

[1]

35. D

[1]

36. A

[1]

37. B

[1]

38. (i)  $K_a = 6.310 \times 10^{-5} / 6.31 \times 10^{-5}$ ;  
*Accept  $6.3 \times 10^{-5}$*

1

(ii) weak (acid);  
 $K_a \ll 1$  / small  $K_a$ ;

2

(iii)  $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]/[\text{H}^+] =$  ;  
 $[\text{H}_3\text{O}^+]/[\text{H}^+] = 7.9 \times 10^{-4} \text{ (mol dm}^{-3}\text{)}$ ;  
 pH = 3.10/3.1/3.12;  
*Award [3] for correct final answer of pH.*

assume  $x \ll 0.010 \text{ (mol dm}^{-3}\text{)}$  / ionization of water is insignificant /  
 $[\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COOH}]_{\text{initial}} = [\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COOH}]_{\text{aq}}$  / temperature  $25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}/298 \text{ K}$ ;

4

[7]

39.	B		[1]
40.	C		[1]
41.	C		[1]
42.	A		[1]
43.	(i)	9.5; <i>Accept any value in the range 9.4–9.6.</i>	1
	(ii)	titration involves a weak acid <b>and</b> a strong base; salt formed at equivalence point is basic due to hydrolysis; $A^-(aq) + H_2O(l) \rightleftharpoons HA(aq) + OH^-(aq)$ ; <i>Ignore state symbols.</i>	3
	(iii)	; $= 0.136 \text{ (mol dm}^{-3}\text{)}$ ;	2
	(iv)	at half neutralization point, $pH = pK_a$ ; $pK_a = 5.3$ ; <i>Accept any value in the range 5.2–5.4.</i>  $K_a = 5.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ (mol dm}^{-3}\text{)}$ ; <i>Accept calculations based on initial pH or on pH of salt.</i>	3
	(v)	phenolphthalein; <i>Accept thymolphthalein.</i> <i>Allow ECF from (a)(i).</i>	1
			[10]

44.  $\text{HIn(aq)} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{In}^-(\text{aq});$   
 colour A colour B  
 in presence of acid/ $\text{H}^+$ , equilibrium shifts to left, colour A;  
 in presence of base/ $\text{OH}^-$ , equilibrium shifts to right, colour B; 3 **[3]**
45. (i) buffer solution resists change in pH;  
 on addition of small amount of acid or base; 2
- (ii) after mixing  $[\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-] = [\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}] = 0.050 \text{ mol dm}^{-3};$   
 $K_a = [\text{H}^+]/pK_a = \text{pH};$   
 $\text{pH} = 4.76;$   
*Working must be shown to score [3].*  
*Award [1] if 4.76 stated with no working.* 3 **[5]**
46. acidic;  
 $[\text{Al}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}(\text{aq}) \rightleftharpoons [\text{Al}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5(\text{OH})]^{2+}(\text{aq}) + \text{H}^+(\text{aq});$   
 Accept  $\text{AlCl}_3 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Al}(\text{OH})_3 + 3\text{HCl}.$  2 **[2]**
47. (i)  $[\text{H}^+] = 7.81 \times 10^{-12} \text{ mol dm}^{-3} / \text{pOH} = -\log 1.28 \times 10^{-3} = 2.90;$   
 $\text{pH} = (14.0 - 2.90) = 11.1;$   
*Award [2] for the correct final answer* 2
- (ii)  $K_b = ;$   
 $= ;$   
 $= 1.66 \times 10^{-5} / 1.64 \times 10^{-5};$  3 **[5]**
48. A **[1]**
49. D **[1]**

50. D

[1]

51. (a) (i) acidic **and**  $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$  is a weak acid  
 $[\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}(\text{aq}) \rightarrow [\text{Fe}(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5]^{2+}(\text{aq}) + \text{H}^+(\text{aq});$  1

*“FeCl<sub>3</sub> is acidic” is not acceptable.*

(ii) neutral **and** NaNO<sub>3</sub> / sodium nitrate is formed from strong base  
and strong acid / ions do not hydrolyse; 1

(iii) alkaline **and** CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> is a weak base /  
CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>(aq) + H<sub>2</sub>O(l) → HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>(aq) + OH<sup>-</sup>(aq); 1

*Award [1] only for correct identification of solutions as acidic,  
neutral and alkaline only, without explanation.*

(b) nitrogen **and** sulfur;  
kills/harms fish/aquatic life in lakes/rivers;  
leaching of soils damages plant life/trees; 3

[6]

52. (a)  $2\text{NH}_3(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4(\text{aq}) \rightarrow (\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4(\text{aq});$  4

*Accept correct equation with NH<sub>4</sub>OH instead of NH<sub>3</sub>  
 $n(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4) = 0.0201 \times 0.150$  (mol);  
 $n(\text{NH}_3) = 6.03 \times 10^{-3}$  (mol);  
 $[\text{NH}_3] = 0.241$  (mol dm<sup>-3</sup>);*

*Award [3] for the correct final answer for the concentration  
calculation.*

(b) bromocresol green;  
reaction of weak base and strong acid;  
pH range of bromocresol green is 3.8 to 5.4/occurs at pH < 7; 3

(c) (i)  $K_b = 10^{-4.75} = 1.78 \times 10^{-5};$   
 $K_b =$   
 $[\text{OH}^-] =$   
 $\text{pOH} = 2.83;$  4

*Award [4] for the correct final answer.*

*Allow ECF, for example any correct conversion of  $[OH^-]$  to  $pOH$ .*

- (ii) a solution which resists change in pH / changes pH very slightly;  
when small amounts of acid or base are added;  
weak acid and its salt / weak acid and its conjugate base; 3

- (iii)  $n(NH_3) = 0.00500$  (mol) **and**  $n(HCl) = 0.00250$  (mol);

$[OH^-] = K_b = 1.78 \times 10^{-5}$ ;  
( $pOH = 4.75$  so)  $pH = 9.25$  (*allow 9.2 to 9.3*); 4

*Award [4] for correct final answer.*

*Accept other valid methods.*

**[18]**