

Advice for N5 Chemistry - Question paper

Learn basic 'routines' for the different types of calculation.

Page 3 of the data booklet contains relationships which can be used for National 5 calculations.

In all calculations worth more than 1 mark, be aware that credit will be given for the correct demonstration of chemical concepts or for intermediate results in a multiple-step calculation.

Show your working clearly in order to maximise chances of obtaining marks.

If a unit is provided in a question it is not necessary to state the unit with their answer. If you state a unit it must be correct, otherwise you will only have access to some of the marks.

Consider titration calculations which do not involve an acid and alkali neutralisation reaction.

When drawing a diagram showing all outer electrons in a molecule the diagram should show all outer non-bonding electrons and not just shared/bonding electrons. Do not show inner electrons as if these are given they must be correct.

Learn basic chemistry definitions such as isomers as well as chemical terms and processes such as ore and distillation.

When writing the symbol for an element, the first letter must be a capital letter and the second letter (if appropriate) must be lower case, eg Np is acceptable, NP is unacceptable.

When writing molecular formulae the number should be smaller than the symbol — eg CO₂ is acceptable, CO2 is unacceptable.

When asked to write an ionic formula both charges must be given.

When asked to draw a full structural formula, a shortened structural formula is not acceptable.

Learn the name of functional groups in organic compounds as well as being able to name them from structural formulae. If the question asks for the name of the functional group, the formula will not be accepted if this is shown within the question.

If asked for a chemical test, the test and the result must be given. If you state the starting colour this must be correct. **clear and colourless do not have the same meaning.

Additional information given with a correct answer may negate the correct answer

When a question asks for a general statement the answer should include the relationship stated in the question. The relationship must be stated in terms of the correct cause and effect.

When a two mark question asks for an explanation, it is necessary to demonstrate a deeper understanding of the concept to achieve the full mark allocation.