



Saint Benedict
Catholic Voluntary Academy

2026

**BE
PREPARED**

Chemistry



St Ralph
Sherwin
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

What do you need to know?

- OCR A GCE Chemistry <https://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/chemistry-a-h032-h432-from-2015/>
- The textbook – you will be lent a textbook for both years

Useful websites to consolidate your study:

<http://www.docbrown.info/page13/page13.htm>

<https://www.chemguide.co.uk/>

<http://www.knockhardy.org.uk/sci.htm>

<https://mathsmadeeasy.co.uk/a-level-chemistry-revision/>

<http://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/chemistry-revision/a-level-ocr-a/>

YouTube: MaChemGuy: Excellent source of walked through exam questions specific to OCR

<https://cramnow.com/>: Excellent website to practice multiple choice questions which make up the first section of Paper 1 and Paper 2

Equipment that you will need for every lesson

A4 ring binder

A4 lined pad of paper

30 cm ruler

Basic stationery

Calculator

Post-It notes

Subject dividers

Access to a hole punch and stapler

Completing the Be Prepared Booklet

You are expected to know, recall and apply the content that you have learnt at GCSE.

There is a data sheet and periodic table at the back of this booklet.

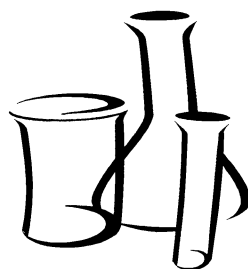
Completing the tasks.

- Complete tasks in the booklet where the spaces have been provided
- For all maths calculations, these need to be completed on A4 lined paper.

AMOUNT OF SUBSTANCE



CHEMSHEETS.co.uk



1 - FORMULAE



If you are serious about doing A level Chemistry, you **MUST** be able to write a formula without a second thought. It is the single most essential skill for an A level chemist.

You have to know and be able to use the information on this page – you should not be looking it up. There is no data sheet with ion charges at A level.

If you can't write a formula in an instant, **DROP CHEMISTRY NOW** and choose something else.

Elements

Monatomic	Simple molecular	Ionic	Metallic	Giant covalent
He helium Ne neon Ar argon Kr krypton Xe xenon Rn radon	H ₂ hydrogen N ₂ nitrogen O ₂ oxygen F ₂ fluorine Cl ₂ chlorine Br ₂ bromine I ₂ iodine P ₄ phosphorus S ₈ sulfur	There are no ionic elements!!	The formula is just the symbol, e.g. Mg magnesium Fe iron Na sodium Ni nickel	The formula is just the symbol C diamond C graphite C graphine Si silicon

Compounds

Monatomic	Simple molecular	Ionic	Metallic	Giant covalent
There are no monatomic compounds!!	Some common molecular compounds: CO ₂ carbon dioxide CO carbon monoxide NO nitrogen monoxide NO ₂ nitrogen dioxide SO ₂ sulfur dioxide SO ₃ sulfur trioxide NH ₃ ammonia CH ₄ methane H ₂ S hydrogen sulfide	These have to be worked out using ion charges – you have to know these at AS/A level! LEARN them ASAP. Note these acids: HCl hydrochloric acid H ₂ SO ₄ sulfuric acid HNO ₃ nitric acid H ₃ PO ₄ phosphoric acid	There are no metallic compounds!!	SiO ₂ silicon dioxide

Positive ions		Negative ions	
Group 1 ions: Li ⁺ lithium Na ⁺ sodium K ⁺ potassium Group 2 ions: Mg ²⁺ magnesium Ca ²⁺ calcium Ba ²⁺ barium	Group 3 ions: Al ³⁺ aluminium Other common ions Mg ²⁺ silver(I) Zn ²⁺ zinc(II) NH ₄ ⁺ ammonium H ⁺ hydrogen	Group 7 ions: F ⁻ fluoride Cl ⁻ chloride Br ⁻ bromide I ⁻ iodide Group 6 ions: O ²⁻ oxide S ²⁻ sulfide	Other common ions NO ₃ ⁻ nitrate SO ₄ ²⁻ sulfate CO ₃ ²⁻ carbonate HCO ₃ ⁻ hydrogencarbonate OH ⁻ hydroxide H ⁻ hydride PO ₄ ³⁻ phosphate

TASK 1 – WRITING FORMULAS OF IONIC COMPOUNDS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) silver(I) bromide | 9) lead(II) oxide |
| 2) sodium carbonate | 10) sodium phosphate |
| 3) potassium oxide | 11) zinc hydrogencarbonate |
| 4) iron(III) oxide | 12) ammonium sulfate |
| 5) chromium(III) chloride | 13) gallium hydroxide |
| 6) calcium hydroxide | 14) strontium selenide |
| 7) aluminium nitrate | 15) radium sulfate |
| 8) sodium sulfate | 16) sodium nitride |

TASK 2 – WRITING FORMULAS 1

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) lead(IV) oxide | 11) barium hydroxide |
| 2) copper | 12) tin(IV) chloride |
| 3) sodium | 13) silver(I) nitrate |
| 4) ammonium chloride | 14) iodine |
| 5) ammonia | 15) nickel |
| 6) sulfur | 16) hydrogen sulfide |
| 7) sulfuric acid | 17) titanium(IV) oxide |
| 8) neon | 18) lead |
| 9) silica | 19) strontium sulfate |
| 10) silicon | 20) lithium |

TASK 3 – WRITING FORMULAS 2

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) silver(I) carbonate | 11) barium hydroxide |
| 2) gold | 12) ammonia |
| 3) platinum(II) fluoride | 13) hydrochloric acid |
| 4) nitric acid | 14) fluorine |
| 5) ammonia | 15) silicon |
| 6) silicon(IV) hydride | 16) calcium phosphate |
| 7) phosphorus | 17) rubidium |
| 8) diamond | 18) germanium(IV) oxide |
| 9) vanadium(V) oxide | 19) magnesium astatide |
| 10) cobalt(II) hydroxide | 20) nitrogen monoxide |

2 - EQUATIONS

From an early age you should have been able to balance chemical equations. However, at A level, you will often need to:

- work out the formulas yourselves
- work out what is made (so you need to know some basic general equations)
- for reactions involving ions in solution, write ionic equations

Some general reactions you should know:

General Reaction	Examples
substance + oxygen → oxides	$2 \text{Mg} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{MgO}$ $2 \text{H}_2\text{S} + 3 \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} + 2 \text{SO}_2$ $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8 + 5 \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 3 \text{CO}_2 + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}$
metal + water → metal hydroxide + hydrogen	$2 \text{Na} + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2 \text{NaOH} + \text{H}_2$
metal + acid → salt + hydrogen	$\text{Mg} + 2 \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{MgCl}_2 + \text{H}_2$
oxide + acid → salt + water	$\text{MgO} + 2 \text{HNO}_3 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
hydroxide + acid → salt + water	$2 \text{NaOH} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
carbonate + acid → salt + water + carbon dioxide	$\text{CuCO}_3 + 2 \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{CuCl}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2$
hydrogencarbonate + acid → salt + water + carbon dioxide	$\text{KHCO}_3 + \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{KCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2$
ammonia + acid → ammonium salt	$\text{NH}_3 + \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$
metal carbonate → metal oxide + carbon dioxide (on heating)	$\text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaO} + \text{CO}_2$

TASK 4 – WRITING BALANCED EQUATIONS

1) Balance the following equations.

- a) $\text{Mg} + \text{HNO}_3 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2 + \text{H}_2$
- b) $\text{CuCl}_2 + \text{NaOH} \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2 + \text{NaCl}$
- c) $\text{SO}_2 + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{SO}_3$
- d) $\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$

2) Give balanced equations for the following reactions.

- a) sodium + oxygen → sodium oxide
- b) aluminium + chlorine → aluminium chloride
- c) calcium + hydrochloric acid → calcium chloride + hydrogen
- d) ammonia + sulfuric acid → ammonium sulfate

TASK 5 – WRITING BALANCED EQUATIONS 2

Write balance equations for the following reactions:

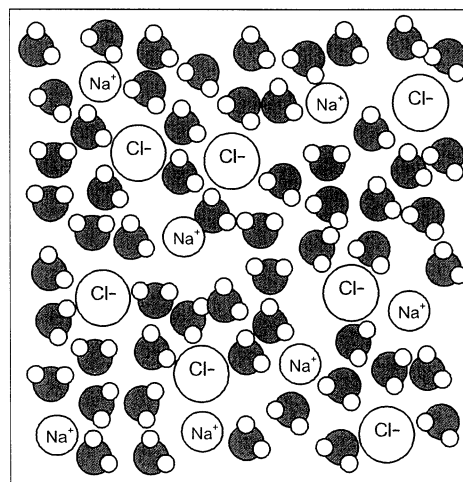
- 1) burning aluminium
- 2) burning hexane (C_6H_{14})
- 3) burning ethanethiol (CH_3CH_2SH)
- 4) reaction of lithium with water
- 5) reaction of calcium carbonate with nitric acid
- 6) thermal decomposition of lithium carbonate
- 7) reaction of ammonia with nitric acid
- 8) reaction of potassium oxide with sulfuric acid
- 9) reaction of calcium hydroxide with hydrochloric acid
- 10) reaction of zinc with phosphoric acid
- 11) reaction of sodium hydrogencarbonate with sulfuric acid
- 12) reaction of potassium hydroxide with sulfuric acid

Ionic equations

When an ionic substance dissolves in water, the positive and negative ions separate and become hydrated (they interact with water molecules rather than each other). For example, a solution of sodium chloride could also be described as a mixture of hydrated sodium ions and hydrated chloride ions in water.

In reactions involving ionic compounds dissolved in water, some of the ions may not be involved in the reaction. These are called **spectator ions**. For such reactions, we can write an **ionic equation** that only shows the species that are involved in the reaction.

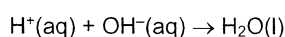
Simple examples are equations for which ionic equations can be written include:



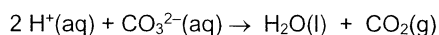
Reactions of acids:

Common ionic equations are:

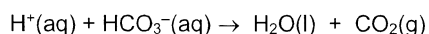
acid + hydroxide



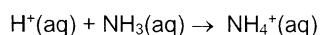
acid + carbonate



acid + hydrogencarbonate



acid + ammonia



We can even use these ionic equations to work out the ratio in which acids react without writing any equation.

For example, in the reaction of $H_2SO_4(aq)$ with $NaOH(aq)$ we know that one lot of H_2SO_4 contains two lots of H^+ ions. As H^+ ions react with OH^- ions in the ratio 1:1 [$H^+(aq) + OH^-(aq) \rightarrow H_2O(l)$] we know that we need two lots of $NaOH$ to provide two lots of OH^- ions to react with the two lots of H^+ ions. Therefore, one lot of H_2SO_4 reacts with two lots of $NaOH$, i.e. the reacting ratio of $H_2SO_4 : NaOH = 1:2$

TASK 7 – SIGNIFICANT FIGURES & STANDARD FORM

- 1) Write the following numbers to the quoted number of significant figures.
- | | | | | | |
|------------|------------|-------|-------------|------------|-------|
| a) 345789 | 4 sig figs | ..... | d) 6.0961 | 3 sig figs | ..... |
| b) 297300 | 3 sig figs | ..... | e) 0.001563 | 3 sig figs | ..... |
| c) 0.07896 | 3 sig figs | ..... | f) 0.010398 | 4 sig figs | ..... |
- 2) Complete the following sums and give the answers to the appropriate number of significant figures.
- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|
| a) 6125×384 | ..... | d) $7550 \div 25$ | ..... |
| b) 25.00×0.010 | ..... | e) 0.000152×13.00 | ..... |
| c) $13.5 + 0.18$ | ..... | f) 0.0125×0.025 | ..... |
- 3) Write the following numbers in non standard form.
- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| a) 1.5×10^{-3} | ..... | d) 5.34×10^2 | ..... |
| b) 4.6×10^{-4} | ..... | e) 1.03×10^6 | ..... |
| c) 3.575×10^5 | ..... | f) 8.35×10^{-3} | ..... |
- 4) Write the following numbers in standard form.
- | | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| a) 0.000167 | ..... | d) 34500 | ..... |
| b) 0.0524 | ..... | e) 0.62 | ..... |
| c) 0.000000015 | ..... | f) 87000000 | ..... |
- 5) Complete the following calculations and give the answers to the appropriate number of significant figures.
- | | |
|--|-------|
| a) $6.125 \times 10^{-3} \times 3.5$ | ..... |
| b) $4.3 \times 10^{-4} \div 7.00$ | ..... |
| c) $4.0 \times 10^8 + 35000$ | ..... |
| d) $0.00156 + 2.4 \times 10^3$ | ..... |
| e) $6.10 \times 10^{-2} - 3.4 \times 10^{-5}$ | ..... |
| f) $8.00 \times 10^{-3} \times 0.100 \times 10^{-3}$ | ..... |

4 – RELATIVE MASS

- Most elements are made of up atoms of different isotopes (e.g. chlorine contains both ^{35}Cl and ^{37}Cl atoms)
- The relative atomic mass (A_r) of an element is an average of the mass of the isotopes taking into account the relative abundance of each isotope.

Relative atomic mass, A_r	Average mass of an atom of an element relative to $\frac{1}{12}$ th the mass of ^{12}C atom
Relative formula mass, M_r	<i>If referring specifically to a molecule (relative molecular mass)</i>
	Average mass of a molecule of a substance relative to $\frac{1}{12}$ th the mass of ^{12}C atom
	<i>More generally for any substance</i> Sum of the relative atomic masses of all the atoms in the formula of a substance

TASK 8 – RELATIVE FORMULA MASS

Calculate the M_r of each of these substances.

- 1 F_2
- 2 Fe
- 3 H_2SO_4
- 4 Al_2O_3
- 5 $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$
- 6 $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3$
- 7 $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$
- 8 CuCO_3
- 9 AgNO_3
- 10 NH_4NO_3
- 11 $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 12 magnesium
- 13 oxygen
- 14 sodium bromide
- 15 calcium fluoride
- 16 potassium sulfate
- 17 chlorine
- 18 iron(III) sulfate

5 – THE MOLE & AVOGADRO CONSTANT

- One mole of anything contains 6.022×10^{23} of those things. One mole of bananas is 6.022×10^{23} bananas. One mole of water molecules is 6.022×10^{23} water molecules
- This number is known as the Avogadro constant ($= 6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$).
- The Avogadro number was chosen so that the mass of one mole of particles of a substance equals the M_r in grams. For example, the M_r of water is 18.0, and the mass of one mole of water molecules is 18.0 grams.



$$\text{Moles} = \frac{\text{mass (g)}}{M_r}$$

1 ton = 1,000,000 g

1 kg = 1,000 g

1 mg = 0.001 g



Remember *Mr Moles!*

TASK 9 – MOLES

- How many moles are there in each of the following?

a) 72.0 g of Mg	b) 4.00 kg of CuO	c) 39.0 g of Al(OH) ₃
d) 1.00 tonne of NaCl	e) 20.0 mg of Cu(NO ₃) ₂	
- What is the mass of each of the following?

a) 5.00 moles of Cl ₂	b) 0.200 moles of Al ₂ O ₃	c) 0.0100 moles of Ag
d) 0.00200 moles of (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄	e) 0.300 moles of Na ₂ CO ₃ ·10H ₂ O	
- Calculate the number of moles of CO₂ molecules in 11.0 g of carbon dioxide.
 - Calculate the number of moles of C atoms in 11.0 g of carbon dioxide.
 - Calculate the number of moles of O atoms in 11.0 g of carbon dioxide.
- Calculate the number of moles of Al₂O₃ in 5.10 g of Al₂O₃
 - Calculate the number of moles of Al³⁺ ions in 5.10 g of Al₂O₃
 - Calculate the number of moles of O²⁻ ions in 5.10 g of Al₂O₃
- An experiment was carried out to find the M_r of vitamin C (ascorbic acid). It was found that 1.00 g contains 0.00568 moles of Vitamin C molecules. Calculate the M_r of vitamin C.
- Use the following data to calculate the mass of the particles shown.

Mass of proton = $1.6726 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g}$	Mass of electron = $9.1094 \times 10^{-28} \text{ g}$
Mass of neutron = $1.6749 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g}$	Avogadro constant = $6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

 - Calculate the mass of a ¹H atom.
 - Calculate the mass of an ¹H⁺ ion.
 - Calculate the mass of one mole of ³H atoms.

TASK 11 – REACTING MASS CALCULATIONS 1

- 1) What mass of hydrogen is needed to react with 40.0 g of copper(II) oxide?
 $\text{CuO} + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 2) What mass of oxygen reacts with 192 g of magnesium?
 $2 \text{Mg} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{MgO}$
- 3) What mass of sulfur trioxide is formed from 96.0 g of sulfur dioxide?
 $2 \text{SO}_2 + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{SO}_3$
- 4) What mass of carbon monoxide is needed to react with 480 kg of iron(III) oxide?
 $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 3 \text{CO} \rightarrow 2 \text{Fe} + 3 \text{CO}_2$
- 5) What mass of carbon dioxide is produced when 5.60 g of butene is burnt.
 $\text{C}_4\text{H}_8 + 6 \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 4 \text{CO}_2 + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 6) What mass of oxygen is needed to react with 8.50 g of hydrogen sulfide (H_2S)?
 $2 \text{H}_2\text{S} + 3 \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{SO}_2 + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 7) 4.92 g of hydrated magnesium sulfate crystals ($\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$) gave 2.40 g of anhydrous magnesium sulfate on heating to constant mass. Work out the formula mass of the hydrated magnesium sulfate and so the value of n .
 $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{MgSO}_4 + n \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 8) In an experiment to find the value of x in the compound $\text{MgBr}_2 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 7.30 g of the compound on heating to constant mass gave 4.60 g of the anhydrous salt MgBr_2 . Find the value of x .
 $\text{MgBr}_2 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{MgBr}_2 + x \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 9) What mass of glucose must be fermented to give 5.00 kg of ethanol?
 $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6 \rightarrow 2 \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH} + 2 \text{CO}_2$
- 10) The pollutant sulfur dioxide can be removed from the air by reaction with calcium carbonate in the presence of oxygen. What mass of calcium carbonate is needed to remove 1.000 tonnes of sulfur dioxide?
 $2 \text{CaCO}_3 + 2 \text{SO}_2 + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{CaSO}_4 + 2 \text{CO}_2$
- 11) What mass of potassium oxide is formed when 7.80 mg of potassium is burned in oxygen?
 $4 \text{K} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{K}_2\text{O}$
- 12) What mass of hydrogen is produced when 10.0 g of aluminium reacts with excess hydrochloric acid?
 $2 \text{Al} + 6 \text{HCl} \rightarrow 2 \text{AlCl}_3 + 3 \text{H}_2$
- 13) What mass of sodium just reacts with 40.0 g of oxygen?
 $4 \text{Na} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{Na}_2\text{O}$
- 14) What mass of nitrogen is produced when 2.00 tonnes of ammonia gas decomposes?
 $2 \text{NH}_3 \rightarrow \text{N}_2 + 3 \text{H}_2$
- 15) What mass of oxygen is produced when 136 g of hydrogen peroxide molecules decompose?
 $2 \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$
- 16) What mass of lead(II) oxide is produced when 0.400 moles of lead(II) nitrate decomposes?
 $2 \text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{PbO} + 4 \text{NO}_2 + \text{O}_2$

