



# **KIBABII UNIVERSITY**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER  
SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF B.RB, BPH, BAB, BAE AND BSc (CHEM)**

**COURSE CODE: SCH 121\***

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY**

**DATE: 30/09/2021**

**TIME: 2:00-4:00PM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

**ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY TWO OF THE REMAINING**

**KIBU OBSERVES ZERO TOLERANCE TO examination cheating**

**Question one (30marks)**

- (a) Define the following terms (3 marks)
- Physical chemistry
  - Colligative properties
  - Degree of dissociation
- (b) A gas occupies a volume of 0.2L at 25°C and pressure of 1 atm. What volume will it occupy at 17°C and 760mmHg pressure? (2 marks)
- (c) Deduce the physical significance of gas constant R (3 Marks)
- (d) (i) State the law of mass action (1 mark)
- (ii) The equilibrium constant  $K_c$  for the reaction  $H_2 + I_2 \rightarrow 2HI$  is 60 at 450°C. Determine the value of  $K_p$  for the above reaction ( $R=8.3142$ ) (2 Marks)
- (e) i) State Ostwald law of dilution (2 mark)
- (ii) State the four factors that affect the degree of dissociation (4 marks)
- (f) 2.0g of methane was completely burnt in air and the amount of heat produced raised the temperature of 500mL of water from 22.0°C to 39°C. Determine the molar heat of combustion of methane ( $C=12$ ,  $H=1$ , Specific heat capacity of water = 4.18J/g/°C) (3 Marks)
- g) State three differences between metallic and electrolytic conductors (3 marks)
- (h) Is it possible to store zinc (ii) nitrate solutions in a iron container? Explain ( $Zn^{2+} + 2e \rightleftharpoons Zn (-0.76v)$ ,  $Fe^{2+} + 2e \rightleftharpoons Fe(-0.44V)$ ) (2marks)
- (i) When a current was passed through  $AgNO_3$  solution for 15 minutes, 0.325g of silver was deposited at the cathode. Calculate the amount of current passed ( $1F = 96487 C mol^{-1}$ ,  $Ag=108$ ) (2 marks)
- (j) (i) In chromatography what is retention factor (Rf) (1 mark)
- (ii) If a compound travels 2.1 cm and the solvent front travels 2.8 cm determine the retention factor (2 Mark)

**Question two (20 marks)**

- a) i) Deduce Vander Waal equation of real gases. (5marks)
- b) ) The ionization constant for certain acid HA is  $4.5 \times 10^{-4}$  at 298K. What concentration of acid would be required to produce a hydrogen ion concentration of  $3.2 \times 10^{-3}M$ ? What would be the degree of ionization? (10 mark)
- c) (i) State any two colligative properties (2 mark)
- (ii) A mixture of water and bromobenzene ( $C_6H_5Br$ ) distills at 95°C, and the distillate contains 1.6 times as much  $C_6H_5Br$  as water by mass. At 95°C the vapour pressure of water and  $C_6H_5Br$  are 640 mm Hg and 120 mm Hg respectively. Calculate the molecular weight of bromobenzene. (3 marks) (3 marks)
- d) State Lechateliers principle (2 marks)
- ii) Briefly explain the effect of the following on equilibrium
- a) Temperature (2 marks)
- b) Concentration (2 marks)

**Question three (20 marks)**

- (i) Calculate the pH value of a solution containing 0.2 moles of  $NH_4OH$  and 0.25 moles of  $NH_4Cl$ . ( $K_b = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $K_w = 10^{-14}$ ) (5 marks)
- (ii) a) What is a buffer solution (2 marks)
- b) How many moles of sodium ethanoate must be dissolved in one litre of 0.05M ethanoic acid to give a buffer solution of pH=4 ( $K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}M/L$ ) (4 marks)
- c) Briefly explain how a buffer solution of a weak acid with its salt such as acetic acid ( $CH_3COOH$ ) and sodium acetate ( $CH_3COONa$ ) resists a change in pH when;
- (ci) A solution of strong acid eg HCl is added (2 marks)
- (Cii) A solution of strong base ( $OH^-$ ) is added (2 marks)
- (iii) Define the term acid using the following concepts
- a) Bronsted-Lowry (1 mark)

b) Lewis concepts

(1 mark)

iv) Given that the solubility product of  $Mg(OH)_2$  is  $1.2 \times 10^{-11}$ . Calculate the solubility of  $Mg(OH)_2$

(3 marks)

**Question Four (20 marks)**

(i) . If  $C$  is the original concentration of the electrolyte and  $\alpha$  is the degree of dissociation, using  $AB \rightleftharpoons A^+B^-$  Derive

mathematical representation of Ostwald dilution law  $\left( \alpha = \sqrt{\frac{K_a}{c}} \right)$

(10marks)

(ii) A sample of a gas weighing  $0.0286 \times 10^{-3} Kg$  occupies a volume of  $0.05 \times 10^{-3} m^3$  at a pressure of 1 atm and temperature of  $25^\circ C$ . Find the molar mass of the gas

(10marks)

**Question Five (20 marks)**

a) One of the uses of electrochemistry in manufacture of dry cells (Leclanche cell)

i) State why the cells are called dry cells

(1 mark)

ii) Write the Cathodic and anodic reactions taking place when the cell is in use

Cathodic reaction

(2 marks)

Anodic reaction

(2 marks)

iii) What is the role of Zinc (II) chloride in the paste used

(1 mark)

iv) Dry cells are examples of primary cell. What does this mean

(1 mark)

b) A solution of 0.1M acetic acid is found to be dissociated to an extent of 1.43%. Calculate the dissociation constant of the acid

(8 marks)

c) ) A sample of the black mineral hematite, an oxide of iron found in many iron ores, contains 34.97 g of iron and 15.03 g of oxygen. What is the empirical formula of hematite?

(5 marks)