



# KIBABII UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER  
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION SCIENCE

COURSE CODE: SCH 311

COURSE TITLE: COMPARATIVE STUDY OF S AND P BLOCK  
ELEMENTS

DURATION: 2 HOURS

DATE: 14/11/2022

TIME: 8:00AM-10.00AM

---

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Answer QUESTION ONE (Compulsory) and any other two (2) Questions.
- Indicate **answered questions** on the front cover.
- Start every question on a new page and make **sure question's number** is written on each page.

This paper consists of 3 printed pages. Please Turn Over



KIBU observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

**Question 1.**

a) Determine the oxidation states of Sulphur in the following compounds:

(i)  $\text{SO}_2$  (ii)  $\text{SF}_6$  (iii)  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$

[3mks]

b) Explain the following observations

i. The mobilities of alkali metal ions in aqueous solutions are  $\text{Li}^+ < \text{Na}^+ < \text{K}^+ < \text{Rb}^+ < \text{Cs}^+$

[2mks]

ii. A solution of sodium carbonate is alkaline

[2mks]

iii. The B-F bond lengths in  $\text{BF}_3$  (130 pm) and  $\text{BF}_4^-$  (143 pm) differ.

[2mks]

iv. Aluminium trifluoride is insoluble in anhydrous HF but dissolves on addition of NaF.

[2mks]

c) How do the following properties of alkaline earth metals vary in comparison to alkali metals [4mks]

d) Explain the structure of  $\text{BeCl}_2$

[3mks]

e) Explain the anomalous behaviour of beryllium

[4mks]

f) Mention four Diagonal Relationship between Beryllium and Aluminium

[4mks]

g) Explain two reasons why Beryllium shows diagonal relationship with aluminium.

[4mks]

**Question 2.**

a) What is inert pair effect?

[1mk]

b) State two common oxidation states shown by group (IV) elements and describe how they vary in their stability down the group.

[4mks]

c) Discuss the type of chlorides formed by group (IV) elements and show how they react with Water.

[10mks]

d) Write an equation to show how lead (II) chloride can be prepared in the laboratory and state the physical properties which show that lead (II) chloride exhibits ionic bonding.

[4mks]

**Question 3.**

a) Account for the following:

[8mks]

i. Bond angle in  $\text{NH}_4^+$  is higher than  $\text{NH}_3$ .

ii.  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  has lower boiling point than  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

iii. Fluorine does not exhibit any positive oxidation state.

iv.  $\text{HClO}_4$  is a stronger acid than  $\text{HClO}$ .

b) What is the difference between the structure of  $\text{AlCl}_3$  and diborane?

[4mks]

c) Arrange the hydrides of group 16 in increasing order of their acidic character. Justify your answer.

[2mks]

d) Draw structure of the following

[6mks]

i.  $\text{XeOF}_4$

ii.  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_2$

iii.  $\text{BrF}_3$



**Question 4.**

a) Give reasons:

[10mks]

- (i) Con.  $\text{HNO}_3$  can be transported in aluminium container.
- (ii) A mixture of dilute  $\text{NaOH}$  and aluminium pieces is used to open drain.
- (iii) Aluminium alloys are used to make aircraft body.
- (iv) Aluminium utensils should not be kept in water overnight.
- (v) Aluminium wire is used to make transmission cables.

b) Describe the manufacture of Cement.

[10mks]

**Question 5.**

a) Describe the preparation of sulphuric acid by contact process 6mks

b) Explain the following;

[6mks]

- i.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  has higher bond angle than  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$
- ii.  $\text{SF}_6$  is known but  $\text{SCl}_6$  is not.
- iii. pentahalides more covalent than trihalides

c) Give four examples to show the anomalous behavior of fluorine

[4mks]

d) Account for the following :

[4mks]

- i. Noble gases have maximum ionization energy in their period.
- ii. The b.p. of noble gases increases with the increase in atomic Number.
- iii. helium molecule, ( $\text{He}_2$ ) is not formed
- iv. Xenon has a closed shell configuration but forms compounds with fluorine.