

# A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

## **CORE PREPARATION: You must complete all of these tasks:**

- Look at the [OCR Chemistry A specification](#), available on their website. We will be starting with Module 2: Foundations in Chemistry so read over this Module so you know what to expect from your course
- One of the most important skills you will need to develop as an A level Chemistry student is how to learn independently, and make good notes. We often set homework to make notes on a topic so we can use class time to apply the information. The Cornell notes method helps you to better engage with material and learn it better as a result. [This video](#) shows you how to take them
- Use the Cornell notes method to make notes on the structure of the atom using [this video](#) up to 8min 50s, and then make another set about electrons using [this video](#). You will need to bring these notes to your first Chemistry lesson, *and* use them help you complete the **summer bridging work booklet** below.
- And finally, the A level Chemistry course contains at least 20% maths. It is advised that you purchase [Maths Skills for Chemistry](#). Please work through the following application of maths tasks:

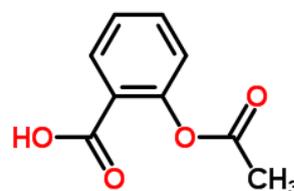
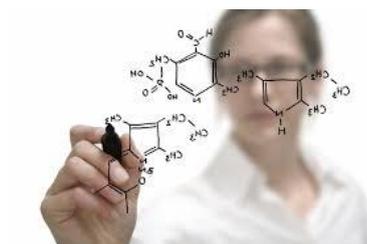
## **ENRICHMENT: You should complete at least two of these:**

- You might want to purchase the [CGP Head Start to A level Chemistry](#) for £4.95 and work through the book, completing the questions on each page.
- Choose 2 papers that interest you from <http://scienceintheclassroom.org/?tid=All> and use the annotations function to help you understand them
- Use the [Royal Society of Chemistry](#) website and look at the virtual chemistry tools that they have on offer. Read chemistry articles from '[The Mole](#)'.



## Summer Bridging Work GCSE to A Level CHEMISTRY

Well done – you have passed GCSE Science with a good grade.

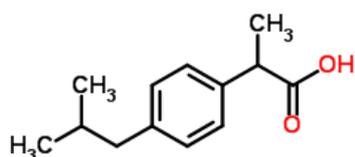


A Level Chemistry is the next step on YOUR exciting journey.

We are pleased that you have chosen Strode's College to continue with your chemistry studies.

In order to be as successful as possible you should complete the following tasks.

Please make sure you bring them to your first chemistry lesson



## Electrons, protons and neutrons

Task 1 (a) complete the table below

particle	symbol	Mass(amu)	charge
<b>proton</b>			
<b>Neutron</b>			
<b>electron</b>			

Task 1 (b) Complete the table below.

Species	Number of protons	Number of neutrons	Number of electrons
$^{16}\text{O}$			
$^{16}\text{O}^{2-}$			
$^{56}\text{Fe}^{2+}$			
$^{55}\text{Fe}^{3+}$			
$^{27}\text{Al}^{3+}$			



## Formulae and ions

**You need to know the charges on all of the common ions on the course.**

You can work out lots of these from the Periodic Table but some you must learn

### Ones you can work out:

- 1+ all ions of the Group I metals ( $\text{Li}^+$ ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Rb}^+$ ,  $\text{Cs}^+$ )
- 2+ all ions of the Group II metals ( $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ )
- 3+ all ions of the Group III metals (not B)
  
- 1- all ions of Group VII elements ( $\text{F}^-$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ ,  $\text{I}^-$ )
- 2- all ions of Group VI elements ( $\text{O}^{2-}$ ,  $\text{S}^{2-}$ )
- 3- all ions of Group V elements ( $\text{N}^{3-}$ ,  $\text{P}^{3-}$ )

Sometimes the element can form more than one ion, so to specify which ion is in the formula, a Roman numeral is used.

I = 1, II = 2, III = 3, IV = 4, V = 5, VI = 6, VII = 7

Iron (II) chloride has  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in it but iron (III) chloride has  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in it.

The Roman numeral tells you the charge on the ion.

Copper (I) iodide has  $\text{Cu}^+$  in it but copper (II) oxide has  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  in it.

Single negative ions end in -ide e.g. iodide for  $\text{I}^-$

Negative ions which also have O may end in -ate e.g. sulfate for  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$

### Some you must learn

silver ion  $\text{Ag}^+$

zinc ion  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$

ammonium ion  $\text{NH}_4^+$

hydroxide  $\text{OH}^-$

sulfate  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$

nitrate  $\text{NO}_3^-$

carbonate  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$



**Task 2 – When you have learnt charges on ions then try this self-test.**

<b>Ion of</b>	<b>ion</b>	<b>Ion of</b>	<b>Ion</b>
<b>Na</b>	<b>Na<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>iron in iron (II) oxide</b>	
<b>Ca</b>		<b>copper in copper (I) oxide</b>	
<b>Al</b>		<b>sulfate</b>	
<b>Hydroxide</b>		<b>nitrate</b>	
<b>Cl</b>		<b>carbonate</b>	
<b>Ammonium</b>		<b>Br</b>	
<b>Nitride</b>		<b>iodide</b>	
<b>Sulphide</b>		<b>oxide</b>	



## Learning how to combine ions to write a formula.

When you combine positive ions and negative ions together to write a formula, you choose the minimum number of each ion to make the formula neutral overall.

### Example 1: Sodium chloride

$\text{Na}^+$  with  $\text{Cl}^-$ . You only need one of each ion for the positive and negative charges to cancel making a neutral formula.  $\text{NaCl}$

### Example 2 :magnesium oxide

$\text{Mg}^{2+}$  with  $\text{O}^{2-}$  You only need one of each ion for the positive and negative charges to cancel making a neutral formula.  $\text{MgO}$

### Example 3 : magnesium chloride

$\text{Mg}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$ . For each  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  you will need two  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions to get 2 minus charges to cancel out the one 2+ charge on the magnesium ion.  $\text{MgCl}_2$

### Example 4 :sodium oxide

$\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{O}^{2-}$  . As each oxide ion has a charge of 2-, you will need two  $\text{Na}^+$  ions to match the charges.  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$

### Example 5: aluminium chloride

$\text{Al}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  Each Al has 3+, so you need three  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions as each has only one minus charge  $\text{AlCl}_3$

### Example 6 : aluminium oxide

$\text{Al}^{3+}$  and  $\text{O}^{2-}$  . As each oxide ion has a charge of 2- and each Al has a charge of 3+, the only way to balance the charges is to have two  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  ions (6+) and three  $\text{O}^{2-}$  (6-)  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$

### Example 7: sodium sulfate

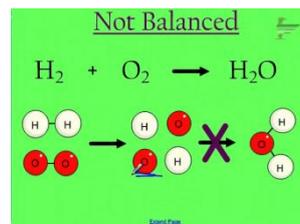
$\text{Na}^+$  with  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  . Each  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  needs two  $\text{Na}^+$  so  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$

### Example 8: ammonium carbonate

$\text{NH}_4^+$  with  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  so we need two ammonium ions for every one carbonate ion.  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$

**Task 3** Now try to write your own formulae.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Formula</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Formula</b>
<b>calcium oxide</b>		<b>strontium sulfate</b>	
<b>magnesium hydroxide</b>		<b>lithium bromide</b>	
<b>sodium sulphide</b>		<b>rubidium nitrate</b>	
<b>aluminium iodide</b>		<b>aluminium sulfate</b>	
<b>aluminium hydroxide</b>		<b>magnesium sulfide</b>	
<b>magnesium nitride</b>		<b>potassium sulfate</b>	
<b>calcium carbonate</b>		<b>iron (III) nitrate</b>	



Balancing equations - read these examples

### Example 1

$\text{C} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2$       1x C atom on each side; 2 x O atoms on each side. The equation is balanced.

### Example 2

$\text{Mg} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{MgO}$       1 atom of Mg, but 2 atoms of O. Therefore not balanced. Put 2 in front of MgO

$\text{Mg} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{MgO}$       2x O on each side; but one Mg on the L and 2 Mg on the R. Put 2 in front of Mg

$2\text{Mg} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{MgO}$       Now the equation is balanced.

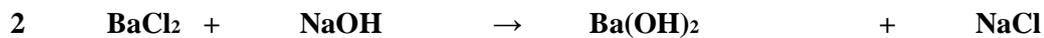
State symbols are used to show the following:

(aq) for aqueous solution (dissolved in water), (g) for gas, (l) for liquid and (s) for solid

$2\text{Mg(s)} + \text{O}_2\text{(g)} \rightarrow 2\text{MgO(s)}$       This equation is now balanced and shows state symbols.

## Task 4 - Balancing equations

Balance the following equations. Remember you MUST NOT change a correct formula!



## **Significant Figures and decimal places**

Sometimes we give the answer to the **nearest whole number**, sometimes to a given number of decimal places and sometimes to a given number of **significant figures**.

### **Whole number rounding:**

If the 1<sup>st</sup> number after the decimal place is 5 or more, then round up.

e.g. 34.7 rounds to 35; 34.415 rounds to 34; 34.456 rounds to 34.

### **Decimal places**

e.g. 23.457890 to 2 decimal place is 23.46; 23.457890 to 1 d. pl. is 23.5

### **Significant figures**

The first significant figure of a number is the first digit which is not zero.

The second significant figure of a number is the digit after the first significant figure. This is true even if the digit is zero.

e.g. 0.00089 has only 2 sig fig;

0.000001 has only 1 sig fig

1.000000001 has 10 sig fig.

Rounding of sig fig is done in the same way as d pl. and whole numbers.

## **Task 5**

**Give the following to the nearest whole number**

**1 123.4**

**2 109.5**

**3 1.09**

**Give the following to 4 decimal places**

**4 56.7688**

**5 0.03542210**

**6 0.0041032**

**7 45.989**

**Give the following numbers to three sig. fig.**

**8 654.389**

**9 65.4389**

**10 654 389**

**11 0.045612**

**12 0.012589**

**13 1.00000007**

**14 2.00445**

**15 2.99501**

## Molar mass from relative atomic mass data ( $M_r$ from $A_r$ )

Molar mass can be found by adding together the relative atomic masses of the elements in the molecule.

### Example 1

Calculate the Molar Mass ( $M_r$ ) of sulfuric acid  $H_2SO_4$

$A_r(H) = 1.0$	Therefore $2 \times 1.0$	$= 2.0$
$A_r(S) = 32.1$	Therefore $1 \times 32.1$	$= 32.1$
$A_r(O) = 16$	Therefore $4 \times 16$	$= 64.0$
<b>Mr, Molar mass</b>		<b><math>= 98.1</math></b>

### Example 2

Calculate the Molar Mass of lead nitrate  $Pb(NO_3)_2$

Care! This substance contains TWO nitrate groups

$A_r(Pb) = 207.2$	Therefore $1 \times 207.2$	$= 207.2$
$A_r(N) = 14$	Therefore $2 \times 14.0$	$= 28.0$
$A_r(O) = 16$	Therefore $6 \times 16.0$	$= 96.0$
<b>Mr, Molar mass</b>		<b><math>= 331.2</math></b>

### Example 3

Calculate the Molar Mass of  $CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O$

Care! This substance has 5 molecules of water attached to each formula unit of copper sulfate.

$A_r(Cu) = 63.5$		Therefore $1 \times 63.5$	$= 63.5$
$A_r(O) = 16$		Therefore $4 \times 16.0$	$= 64.0$
$A_r(H) = 1$	In $5H_2O$ there are 10 atoms of H	Therefore $10 \times 1.0$	$= 10.0$
$A_r(O) = 16$	In $5H_2O$ there are 5 atoms of O		
Therefore $5 \times 16.0$	$= 80.0$	<b>Mr, molar mass =</b>	<b>249.6</b>

Here is an alternative way of showing the same calculation:

$$CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O = [ 63.5 + 32.0 + (4 \times 16.0) + 5\{(2 \times 1.0) + 16.0\} ] = 249.6$$



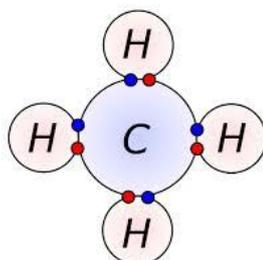
## Task 6

Substance	Formula mass	Formula mass	Formula mass	Formula mass	Formula mass
H <sub>2</sub> O		CO <sub>2</sub>		C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH	
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>		HBr		HNO <sub>3</sub>	
NaCl		NaNO <sub>3</sub>		Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	
CaCl <sub>2</sub>		Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>		Al(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	
Fe <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>		PbCl <sub>2</sub>		CuSO <sub>4</sub> ·5H <sub>2</sub> O	
FeSO <sub>4</sub> ·7H <sub>2</sub> O		(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ·Fe <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> ·24H <sub>2</sub> O			

# Bonding - ionic and covalent

## Covalent bond:

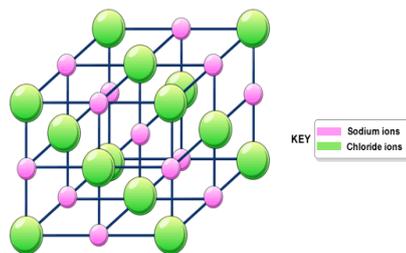
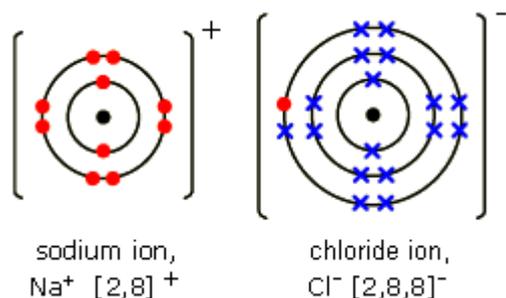
This is a shared pair of electrons



● Electron from hydrogen  
● Electron from carbon

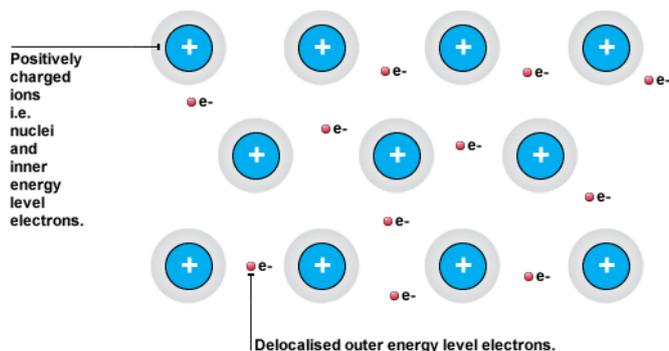
## Ionic bond :

This is the electrostatic attraction between oppositely charged ions.



## Metallic bond:

This is the electrostatic attraction between positive metal ions and delocalised electrons.



## Task 7(a)

**'Dot-and-cross' diagrams can be used to show covalent or ionic bonding:**

**Fluorine has a covalent oxide called oxyfluoride, F<sub>2</sub>O. The oxygen atom is covalently bonded to each fluorine atom.**

**Draw a '*dot-and-cross*' diagram of a molecule of F<sub>2</sub>O.  
Show outer electron shells only.**

## Task 7 (b)

**Draw a '*dot-and-cross*' diagram to show the covalent bonding in NH<sub>3</sub>.**

### Task 7 (c)

Magnesium has metallic bonding.

Draw a diagram of Mg to show what is meant by *metallic* bonding.

### Task 7 (d)

Draw a '*dot-and-cross*' diagram to show the ionic bonding in  $\text{CaF}_2$ .

END