2 **(a)** Iron can form stable ions in the +2 and +3 oxidation states.

Explain why transition elements have variable oxidation states.

.....

..... [1]

(b) Aqueous solutions of iron(II) salts contain the complex ion $[Fe(H_2O)_6]^{2+}$.

Define complex ion.

.....

..... [1]

(c) $[Fe(H_2O)_6]^{2+}$ can be converted into $[Fe(H_2O)_4(OH)_2]$.

(i) Suggest a suitable reagent for this conversion. State the type of reaction.

reagent .....

type of reaction .....
[1]

(ii) $[Fe(H_2O)_4(OH)_2]$ is a green precipitate that turns brown on standing in air.

Table 2.1 shows electrode potentials for some electrode reactions.

Table 2.1

electrode reaction	$E^{\ominus}$ / V
$Fe(H_2O)_3(OH)_3 + H_2O + e^- \rightleftharpoons Fe(H_2O)_4(OH)_2 + OH^-$	–0.56
$O_2 + 2H_2O + 4e^- \rightleftharpoons 4OH^-$	+0.40

Use the information in Table 2.1 to explain why $[Fe(H_2O)_4(OH)_2]$ turns brown on standing in air.
Include an equation for this reaction.

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.....

..... [3]

(d) The complex $[Co(NH_3)_6]^{2+}$ reacts with hydrogen peroxide as shown.

reaction 1 $2[Co(NH_3)_6]^{2+} + H_2O_2 \rightarrow 2[Co(NH_3)_6]^{3+} + 2OH^-$ $E^{\ominus}_{cell} = +1.67\,V$

Calculate $\Delta G^{\ominus}$, in $kJ\,mol^{-1}$, for reaction 1.

$\Delta G^{\ominus}$ = ... $kJ\,mol^{-1}$ [2]

[Total: 8]