Organic synthesis

A-Level Chemistry · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
functional group /ˈfʌŋkʃənl gruːp/	The –OH **functional group** makes a compound an alcohol. –OH
alkene /ˈælkiːn/	Ethene is an **alkene**.
halogenoalkane /ˈheɪlədʒnəʊlkeɪn/	Bromoethane is a **halogenoalkane**.
alcohol /ˈælkəhɒl/	Ethanol is an **alcohol**.
aldehyde /ˈældɪhaɪd/	Ethanal is an **aldehyde**.
ketone /ˈketəʊn/	Propanone is a **ketone**.
carboxylic acid /ˌkɑːbɒkˈsɪlɪk ˈæsɪd/	Ethanoic acid is a **carboxylic acid**.
nitrile /ˈnaɪtraɪl/	Ethanenitrile is a **nitrile**: it has a C≡N group. C≡N
amine /ˈæmaɪn/	Methylamine is an **amine**.
ester /ˈestə/	Fruity smells often come from an **ester**.
synthetic route /sɪnˈθetɪk ruːt/	The **synthetic route** has three steps from ethene to the product.
reagent /rɪˈeɪdʒənt/	Acidified dichromate is a **reagent** that oxidises alcohols.
oxidation /ˌɒksɪˈdeɪʃn/	**Oxidation** is the loss of electrons.
reduction /rɪˈdʌkʃn/	**Reduction** is the gain of electrons.

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by-product /baɪˈprɒdʌkt/	Water is a **by-product** of this reaction.