2 Ethanal, CH_3CHO, reacts with nitrogen dioxide, NO_2. The products of the first step of this reaction are a $CH_3\dot{C}{=}O$ radical and a molecule of nitrous acid, HNO_2.

$$CH_3CHO + NO_2 \rightarrow CH_3\dot{C}{=}O + HNO_2$$

(a) (i) Use **two** words to complete the sentence.

This reaction involves .... of the single covalent bond between a hydrogen atom and a carbon atom in CH_3CHO.

[1]

(ii) The hydrogen atom mentioned in **(a)(i)** forms a covalent bond with one of the oxygen atoms of an NO_2 molecule. An NO_2 molecule has a single, unpaired electron on the nitrogen atom. All electrons are paired in an HNO_2 molecule.

Draw dot-and-cross diagrams of NO_2 and HNO_2 in the boxes. Show outer shell electrons only.

NO_2

HNO_2

[1]

(iii) Use VSEPR theory to predict the bond angle at the nitrogen atom in an HNO_2 molecule.

bond angle = ... [1]

(b) The rate equation for the reaction between CH_3CHO and NO_2 is shown.

$$\text{rate} = k[CH_3CHO][NO_2]$$

Under certain conditions, when the concentrations of both CH_3CHO and NO_2 are $0.200\,\text{mol dm}^{-3}$, the rate of the reaction is $1.53 \times 10^{-4}\,\text{mol dm}^{-3}\,\text{s}^{-1}$.

Calculate the value of the rate constant, k, under these conditions. Give the units of k.

k = ... units ..... [2]

(c) The reaction mixture described in **(b)** is monitored over a period of time.

Predict whether the graph of $[NO_2]$ against time shows a constant half-life.

Explain your answer.

prediction .....

explanation .....

.....

[1]

(d) NO_2 also reacts with ozone, O_3.

The rate equation is shown.

$$\text{rate} = k_1[NO_2]$$

Under certain conditions, the value of k_1 is $0.0848\,\text{s}^{-1}$.

The reaction has a constant half-life under these conditions.

Calculate the half-life in seconds.

half-life = ... s [1]

(e) NO_2 is present in the exhaust gases of cars. It can react with carbon monoxide, CO, on the surface of a heterogeneous catalyst in the car's catalytic converter.

Describe the mode of action of this heterogeneous catalyst.

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..... [2]

[Total: 9]