

1 Chromium, Cr, and its compounds are widely used in many chemical reactions.

(a) Cr exists as four stable isotopes.

(i) The most common isotope of Cr is chromium-52.

Determine the number of protons, neutrons and electrons in an atom of chromium-52.

number of protons neutrons electrons [1]

(ii) Describe how an atom of chromium-54 differs from an atom of chromium-52. Refer to numbers of particles in your answer.

.....
..... [1]

(iii) The relative isotopic masses of the isotopes of Cr can be determined using mass spectrometry.

State what other information is needed to calculate the relative atomic mass, A_r , of Cr.

..... [1]

(iv) Atoms of ^{52}Cr , ^{53}Cr and ^{54}Cr make up more than 95% of naturally occurring chromium atoms. The A_r of naturally occurring Cr is 51.996.

Suggest what these statements imply about the relative isotopic mass of the fourth stable isotope of chromium.

..... [1]

(b) The shorthand electronic configuration of chromium is $[\text{Ar}] 3d^5 4s^1$.

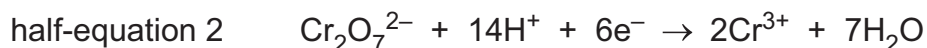
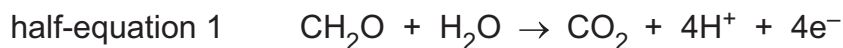
(i) Complete the full electronic configuration of chromium.

..... $3d^5 4s^1$ [1]

(ii) Deduce the total number of unpaired electrons in an atom of chromium.

..... [1]

- (c) Acidified dichromate(VI) ions will convert methanal, CH_2O , to carbon dioxide. The movement of electrons to or from relevant species is shown in the following half-equations.



- (i) Identify the species that is reduced in half-equation 2. Explain your answer.

..... [1]

- (ii) The oxidation state of the carbon atom in methanal is 0.

Calculate the oxidation state of carbon in carbon dioxide.

..... [1]

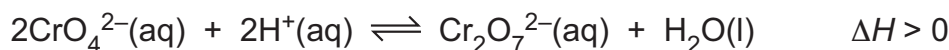
- (iii) Construct the ionic equation for the reaction of dichromate(VI) ions with methanal in acidic conditions.

..... [2]

- (iv) Methanal is a liquid at -30°C but carbon dioxide is a gas at this temperature. Explain why.

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.....
..... [2]

- (d) In acidic conditions, a dynamic equilibrium is established between $\text{CrO}_4^{2-}(\text{aq})$ and $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}(\text{aq})$.



- (i) State what is meant by dynamic equilibrium.

.....
..... [1]

- (ii) Identify the condition necessary to establish dynamic equilibrium.

..... [1]

- (iii) $\text{CrO}_4^{2-}(\text{aq})$ ions are yellow and $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}(\text{aq})$ ions are orange.

State what is observed when the following changes are made to an equilibrium mixture of acidified $\text{CrO}_4^{2-}(\text{aq})$ and $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}(\text{aq})$ ions.

Explain your answers.

- The equilibrium mixture is warmed gently.

observation

explanation

.....

.....

- Dilute $\text{HCl}(\text{aq})$ is added to the equilibrium mixture.

observation

explanation

.....

.....

[4]

- (e) Chromium(IV) fluoride, CrF_4 , is a covalent molecule that shows similar chemical properties to SiCl_4 .

Suggest the type of reaction that occurs when CrF_4 is placed in water.

Construct a relevant equation for this reaction.

type of reaction

equation

[2]