The preparation and properties of oxygen

Introduction

Potassium manganate(VII) produces oxygen when heated. In this experiment oxygen is produced and identified with a glowing splint.



What to record	
	What was done and what was observed.
What to do	
	1. Place two spatula measures of potassium manganate(VII) in a test-tube.
	2. Place a small piece of ceramic wool near the top of the test-tube. This stops fine dust escaping.
	3. Gently heat the test-tube containing the potassium manganate(VII).
	4. Light a splint and extinguish it, to make a 'glowing splint'.
	5. Place the glowing splint just above the top of the test-tube. Keep heating the test- tube. The splint should relight.
	6. Scrape out the ceramic wool. Let the test-tube cool to room temperature and then wash it out.
	7. Notice the colours produced when the test tube is washed out.
Safety	
	Wear eye protection.
	Potassium manganate(VII) is harmful if swallowed. It assists fire.
Questions	
	1. What is the chemical formula for potassium manganate(VII)?

Identifying polymers

Introduction

In this experiment solutions with known densities are used to identify the polymers used in everyday materials.



What to record

		Solut	ions				
Sample	Colour (or shape)	1	2	3	4	5	6

What to do

- 1. Fill six test-tubes with solutions 1 to 6 and label each tube.
- 2. Place a sample of each type of polymer into solution 1.
- 3. Use a glass rod to stir the contents of the tube. Observe whether the waste plastics float or sink.
- 4. For samples that sink, write the letter S in column 1 of the results table.
- 5. Wash the glass rod and dry it on a tissue or paper towel.
- 6. Repeat the test for solutions 2 to 6. Use a new sample each time.

Safety

Wear eye protection.

Solutions 1,2 and 3 are highly flammable and toxic. Solutions 5 and 6 are irritants.

Classic chemistry experiments

- 1. Why were the solutions stirred once the plastics were added?
- 2. Use the following table to identify the plastics. Fill in the table.

			Fing	erprir	nt			
Polymer name	Acronym	Colour	1	2	3	4	5	6
Polyethylene terephthalate	PET	Any	S	S	S	S	S	S
Polyvinyl chloride	PVC	Any	S	S	S	S	S	-
Polystyrene	PS	Any	S	S	S	S	-	-
High density polyethylene	HDPE	Any	S	S	S	-	_	_
Low density polyethylene	LDPE	Any	S	S	_	-	_	_
Polypropylene	PP	Any	S	-	-	-	-	-
Expanded polystyrene	EPS	Any	-	-	_	-	-	-

Polymer name	Acronym	Sample
Polyethylene terephthalate	PET	
Polyvinyl chloride	PVC	
Polystyrene	PS	
High density polyethylene	HDPE	
Low density polyethylene	LDPE	
Polypropylene	PP	
Expanded polystyrene	EPS	

Energy values of food

Introduction

In this experiment various foods are tested to find how much energy they contain.



What to record

Measurement	Foo	d
Mass/g		
Temperature of water before heating/°C		
Temperature of water after heating/°C		
Change in temperature/°C		
Heat absorbed by water/J (Temperature change x 4.2)		
Heat absorbed by water per gram of food/J		

What to do

- 1. Put 10 cm³ of water in a test-tube. Clamp the test-tube in the retort stand at an angle as shown in the diagram.
- 2. Weigh a small piece of food and record the mass in your table.
- 3. Take the temperature of the water in the test-tube and record it in the table.
- 4. Fix the food on the end of the mounted needle. If the food is likely to melt when heated put it on a teaspoon instead of on the needle.
- 5. Light the food using a bunsen burner. As soon as the food is alight, hold it about 1 cm below the test-tube. If the flame goes out, quickly relight it.
- 6. When the food stops burning, stir the water in the test-tube with the thermometer and note the temperature. Record it in your table.
- 7. Empty the test-tube and refill it with another 10 cm³ of water. Repeat the experiment using a different food each time.

Safety

Wear eye protection.

- 1. Suggest reasons why this experiment may not be a fair test?
- 2. Burning gives out heat. What is the name given to this sort of reaction?
- The label on a packet of cheese says 100 g provides 1638 kJ. Calculate how many joules this is per gram of cheese and compare it to the cheese in your experiment. (1 kJ = 1000 J)

A compound from two elements

Introduction

A mixture of iron and sulfur can easily be separated. This is because there are no chemical bonds between the sulfur and the iron. The iron is magnetic and is therefore easily removed from the sulfur. In this experiment, a mixture of iron and sulfur are heated to make a new compound.



What to do

- 1. Examine the plastic bag of sulfur, the bag of iron and the bag containing a mixture of the two.
- 2. Run a magnet over each of the bags.
- 3. Set up the apparatus as shown in the diagram.
- 4. Light a Bunsen burner and half open the air-hole to give a medium flame.
- 5. Heat the very end of the tube strongly. When the mixture starts to glow, move the Bunsen burner to one side.
- 6. Watch the mixture in the tube. (If the glow just goes out, heat the tube again.)
- 7. Let the tube cool down completely.
- 8. The substance from the tube is a new compound called iron sulfide.
- 9. Test the iron sulfide with a magnet. Does the magnet pick it up?

Safety

Wear eye protection. Do not get too close to the fumes.

- 1. Write a word equation for this reaction.
- 2. What has happened to the iron and the sulfur in forming iron sulfide?
- 3. What is the chemical formula for iron sulfide?

Chemistry and electricity

Introduction

In this experiment, electricity and some indicators are used to make coloured writing.



What to do

	 Dissolve a spatula measure of sodium chloride in 2 cm^o of water. Add three drops of methyl orange indicator.
	 Lay a filter paper inside a plastic petri dish. Drop the solution onto the paper using a dropping pipette, until the paper holds no more solution.
	3. Attach the positive end of a 6 V battery to a lead ending in a crocodile clip. Use the crocodile clip to grip one end of the paper.
	4. Attach the negative end of the battery to a carbon electrode.
	5. Write lightly on the wet paper, using the carbon electrode. What colour is the writing?
	6. Repeat the experiment using Universal Indicator. Describe what happens.
Safety	
	Wear eye protection.
Questions	
	 What would happen if the lead were attached to the positive electrode using Universal Indicator? Try this if there is time.
	2. Explain what reactions have occurred to produce the colours.

Combustion

Introduction

Hydrocarbons produce carbon dioxide and water when they burn. In this experiment the products of combustion are captured and tested.



What to record	
	What was done and what was observed.
What to do	
	 Set up the apparatus as shown in the diagram. The gas jar should be placed over the lit candle on a heatproof mat.
	2. When the candle goes out, put a lid on the gas jar.
	 Test to see if the candle made water by adding a piece of blue cobalt chloride paper, test the sides of the jar. If it turns pink, water is present.
	4. Now test to see if carbon dioxide was produced. Pour a little limewater into the gas jar. Swill it around a little. If carbon dioxide is present, the limewater turns cloudy.
Safety	
	Wear eye protection.
Questions	
	1. What is the gas that reacts with the hydrocarbon when it burns?
	2. What gases does the candle produce when it burns?
	3. Name another fuel that produces the same gases when it burns.

The determination of relative atomic mass

Introduction

One mole of any gas occupies the same volume when measured under the same conditions of temperature and pressure. In this experiment, the number of moles of hydrogen produced from a known mass of magnesium is measured. The relative atomic mass of magnesium can therefore be calculated.



What to record

The mass of magnesium used and the volume of hydrogen produced.

What to do

- 1. Clean a piece of magnesium ribbon (about 3.5 cm long) and weigh it accurately (This should weigh between 0.02 g and 0.04 g; if not adjust the amount used.)
- 2. Measure 25 cm³ of dilute hydrochloric acid into the burette. Carefully add 25 cm³ of water on top of this.
- 3. Push the magnesium in the end of the burette so it stays in position with its own tension.
- 4. Add 50 cm³ of water to a 250 cm³ beaker.
- 5. Quickly invert the burette into the water, (if this is done quickly and carefully very little will be lost. It is important that the liquid level in the burette starts on the graduated scale. If it is not on the scale; momentarily open the tap, this allows the level to drop).
- 6. Clamp the burette vertically.
- 7. Take a burette reading (NB: it is upside down!)
- 8. Observe how the magnesium reacts as the acid diffuses downwards, wait until all the magnesium has reacted.
- 9. Note the new volume on the burette (NB: it is upside down).
- 10. Record your results.

Classic chemistry experiments

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Safety

Wear eye protection.

Questions

The equation for the reaction is
$Mg + 2HCI \rightarrow MgCl_2 + H_2$
1. Copy out and fill in the gaps:
g magnesium was produced fromcm ³ of hydrogen.
g magnesium was produced from 1 cm ³ of hydrogen
g magnesium was produced from 24000 cm ³ of hydrogen

_____ g magnesium would be produced from 1 mole of hydrogen.

This is the mass of 1 mole of magnesium. Numerically, this number is the relative atomic mass of magnesium.

of hydrogen.

The reaction of a Group 7 element (iodine with zinc)

Introduction

This experiment involves producing a salt by reacting a Group 7 element (iodine) with zinc. This is an example of salt preparation by direct synthesis.



Reactions of halogens

Introduction

The Group 7 elements are called the halogens. This experiment involves some reactions of the halogens.



What to record

Complete the table.

	Effect on indicator paper	Reaction with potassium chloride solution	Reaction with potassium bromide solution	Reaction with potassium iodide solution
Chlorine water				
Bromine water				
lodine water				

What to do

- 1. Put a piece of Universal Indicator paper onto a white tile.
- 2. Use a glass stirring rod to transfer a few drops of the first solution onto the indicator paper.
- 3. Repeat this with a fresh piece of paper and the different solutions.
- 4. In a test-tube, add some chlorine solution to a solution of potassium bromide.
- 5. Add some chlorine solution to a solution of potassium iodide.
- 6. Now try mixing solutions of bromine and potassium iodide. If there is time, mix the other combinations of solutions to complete the table.

Safety

Wear eye protection. Do not breathe chlorine gas.

- 1. Which halogen solution is the strongest bleaching agent?
- 2. Which halogen is the most reactive?
- 3. Write a word and symbol equation for the reaction of chlorine with potassium bromide.

The sublimation of air freshener

Introduction

Sublimation is an interesting physical change. When a substance sublimes, it changes directly from a solid to a gas without passing through the liquid state. Dry ice sublimes, as do iodine and mothballs. This experiment involves the study of another common substance that sublimes – air freshener.



What to do	
	1. Place a few lumps of air freshener in the bottom of the 100 cm ³ beaker.
	2. Put the 100 cm ³ beaker carefully on top of the other 100 cm ³ beaker.
	 Fill the top beaker three quarters full with ice. Ensure no ice enters the beaker below.
	 Fill the shallow dish or pan about one-third full of hot water (at a higher temperature than 45 °C).
	5. Place the sublimation apparatus in the shallow dish in a fume cupboard.
	6. Observe what happens to the solid. Be patient, it may take a while.
Safety	
,	Wear eye protection. Use a fume cupboard.
Questions	
	1. What might be the significance of 45 °C? Try lower and higher temperatures if there is time.
	2. Define 'sublimation'.
	 Use the particle theory of matter to explain what is happening and include a particle diagram.