

A Level Chemistry A H432/03 Unified chemistry

Question Set 7

This question looks at reactions of hydrogen peroxide and of cobalt(II) ions.

(a) Aqueous hydrogen peroxide decomposes as shown in **equation 2.1**.

$$2H_2O_2(aq) \rightarrow 2H_2O(l) + O_2(g)$$
 Equation 2.1

The reaction is catalysed by manganese(IV) oxide, MnO₂.

A student investigates the decomposition of a hydrogen peroxide solution as outlined below.

- The student adds 50.00 cm³ of H₂O₂(aq) to a conical flask.
- The student adds a small spatula measure of MnO₂ and quickly connects the flask to a gas syringe.
- The student measures the volume of oxygen every 200 seconds.

Results

Time/s	Volume of O ₂ /cm ³		
0	0		
200	15		
400	28		
600	36		
800	41		
1000	46		
1200	48		
1400	50		

- (i) Process the results as outlined below.
 - On the next page, plot a graph of **volume of O**₂ against **time**.
 - Use your graph to find the rate of the reaction, in $cm^3 s^{-1}$, at t = 500 s.

Show your working on the graph and in the space below.



(ii) The student allows the reaction in **equation 2.1** to proceed until no more gas is evolved. The volume of O_2 in the syringe is now 55 cm³, measured at RTP.

Calculate the initial concentration of the $\rm H_2O_2,$ in mol dm^-3.

Give your answer to **two** significant figures.

[5]

(b) Hydrogen peroxide can act as an oxidising agent or as a reducing agent.

Some standard electrode potentials are shown below.

$2H^+(aq) + O_2(g) + 2e^-$ $H_2O_2(aq) + 2H^+(aq) + 2e^-$	$\stackrel{\frown}{\leftarrow}$	H ₂ O ₂ (aq) 2H ₂ O(I)	$E^{\oplus} = +0.68 \vee E^{\oplus} = +1.77 \vee$
VO ²⁺ (aq) +2H ⁺ (aq) + e ⁻ MnO ₄ ⁻ (aq) + 8H ⁺ (aq) + 5e ⁻	$\stackrel{\longrightarrow}{\leftarrow}$	V ³⁺ (aq) + H ₂ O(I) Mn ²⁺ (aq) + 4H ₂ O(I)	$E^{\oplus} = +0.34 \vee E^{\oplus} = +1.51 \vee$

Use this information to write an equation for a reaction in which hydrogen peroxide acts as a reducing agent.

[2]

[1]

[2]

(c) Cobalt(II) forms complex ions with water ligands and with chloride ligands.

- With water ligands, cobalt(II) forms a pink octahedral complex ion, [Co(H₂O)₆]²⁺.
- With chloride ligands, cobalt(II) forms a blue tetrahedral complex ion.

A student dissolves cobalt(II) sulfate in water in a boiling tube. A pink solution forms.

Experiment 1

The student places the boiling tube in a water bath at 100 °C. Concentrated hydrochloric acid is added dropwise. The colour of the solution changes from pink to blue.

Experiment 2

The student places the boiling tube from **experiment 1** in an ice/water bath at 0 °C. The colour of the solution changes from blue to pink.

- (i) Write the equilibrium equation for the reaction that takes place when the colour of the solution changes.
- (ii) Explain the observations and predict whether the formation of the blue colour is exothermic or endothermic.

Total Marks for Question Set 7: 13



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