

**THE CANADIAN CHEMISTRY CONTEST 2022**  
for high school and CEGEP students

**PART C: CANADIAN CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD**  
**Final Selection Examination 2022**

**(120 minutes)**

This segment has five (5) questions. While students are expected to attempt **all** questions for a complete examination in 2 hours, it is recognized that backgrounds will vary and **students will not be eliminated from further competition because they have missed parts of the paper.**

Your answers are to be written in the spaces provided on this paper. All of the paper, is to be returned **immediately** by upload.

— PLEASE READ —	PART A (      ) Correct Answers
1. BE SURE TO COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE BEFORE BEGINNING PART C OF THE EXAMINATION.	25 x 1.6 = ...../040
2. STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS OF <b>PART A AND PART C</b> . CREDITABLE WORK ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF THE QUESTIONS MAY BE SUFFICIENT TO EARN AN INVITATION TO THE NEXT LEVEL OF THE SELECTION PROCESS.	PART C
3. IN QUESTIONS WHICH REQUIRE NUMERICAL CALCULATIONS, BE SURE TO SHOW YOUR REASONING AND YOUR WORK.	1. ....../012
4. ONLY NON-PROGRAMMABLE CALCULATORS MAY BE USED ON THIS EXAMINATION.	2. ....../012
5. PART A DATASHEET IS THE ONLY DATASHEET THAT MAY BE USED ON THIS EXAMINATION.	3. ....../012
	4. ....../012
	5. ....../012
	TOTAL ...../100

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_  
(LAST NAME, Given Name; Print Clearly)

City & Province \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone (      ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Years at a Canadian high school \_\_\_\_ No. of chemistry courses at a Québec CÉGEP \_\_\_\_

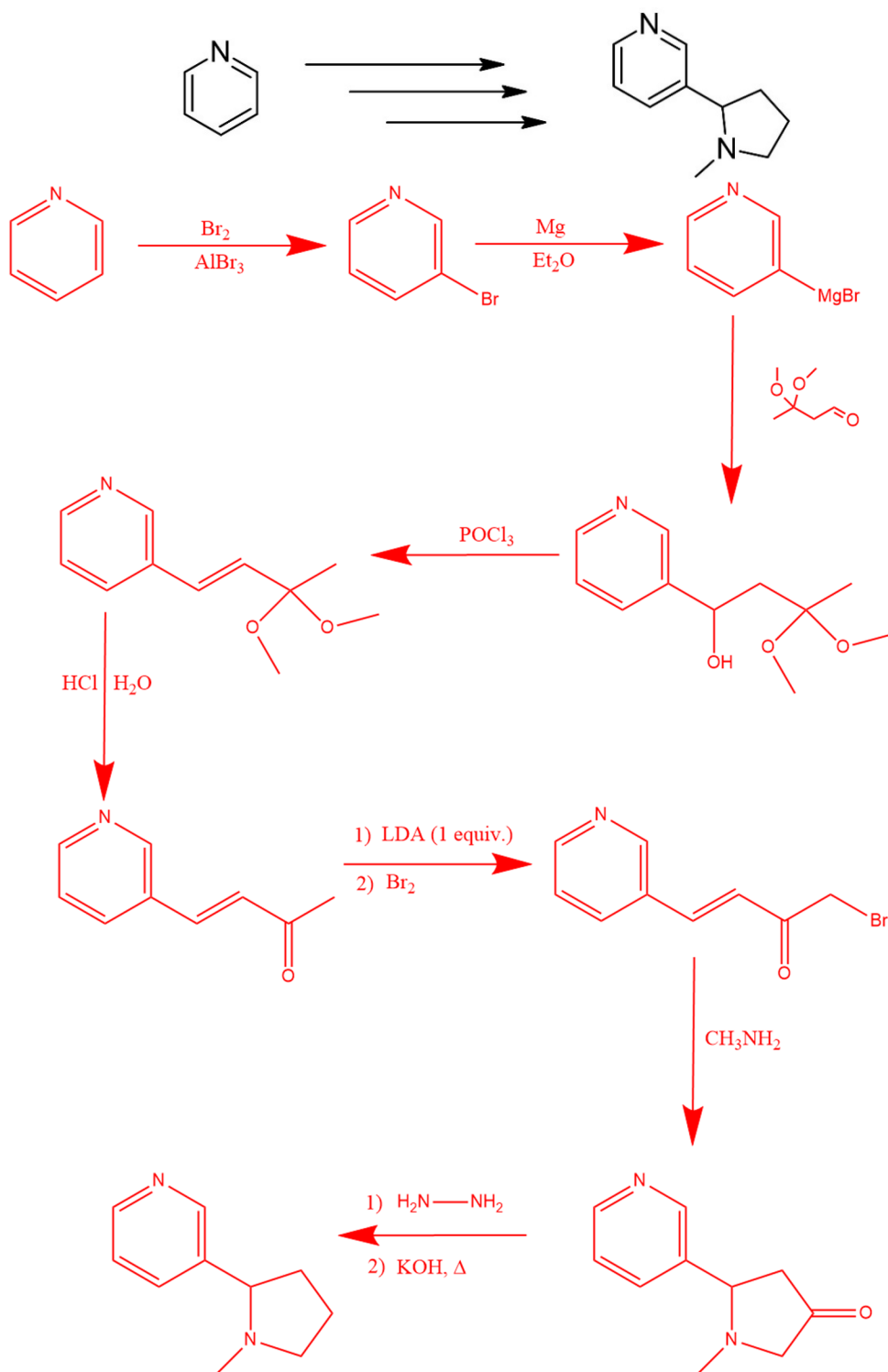
Male  Canadian Citizen  Landed Immigrant  Visa Student

Female  Passport valid until February 2023  Nationality of Passport \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

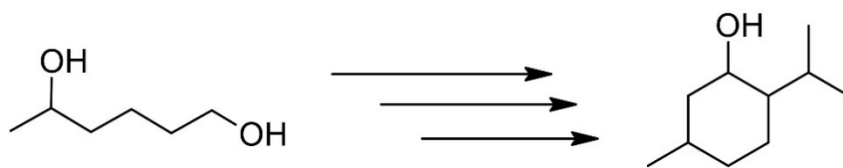
# 1. ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

- a) Starting with pyridine and any non-cyclic organic reagents with 6 or less carbon atoms, devise a synthesis of nicotine without stereochemistry. You may use any inorganic reagents you wish. Clearly draw the entire scheme containing reagents and intermediates. **6 marks**

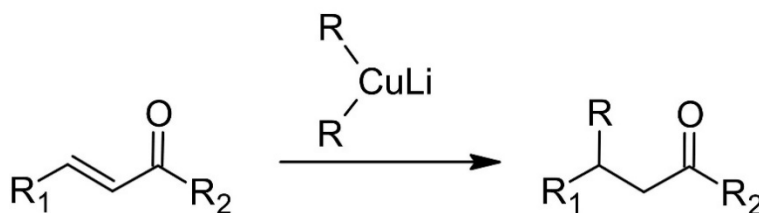


Official answer (other correct answers may also be accepted)

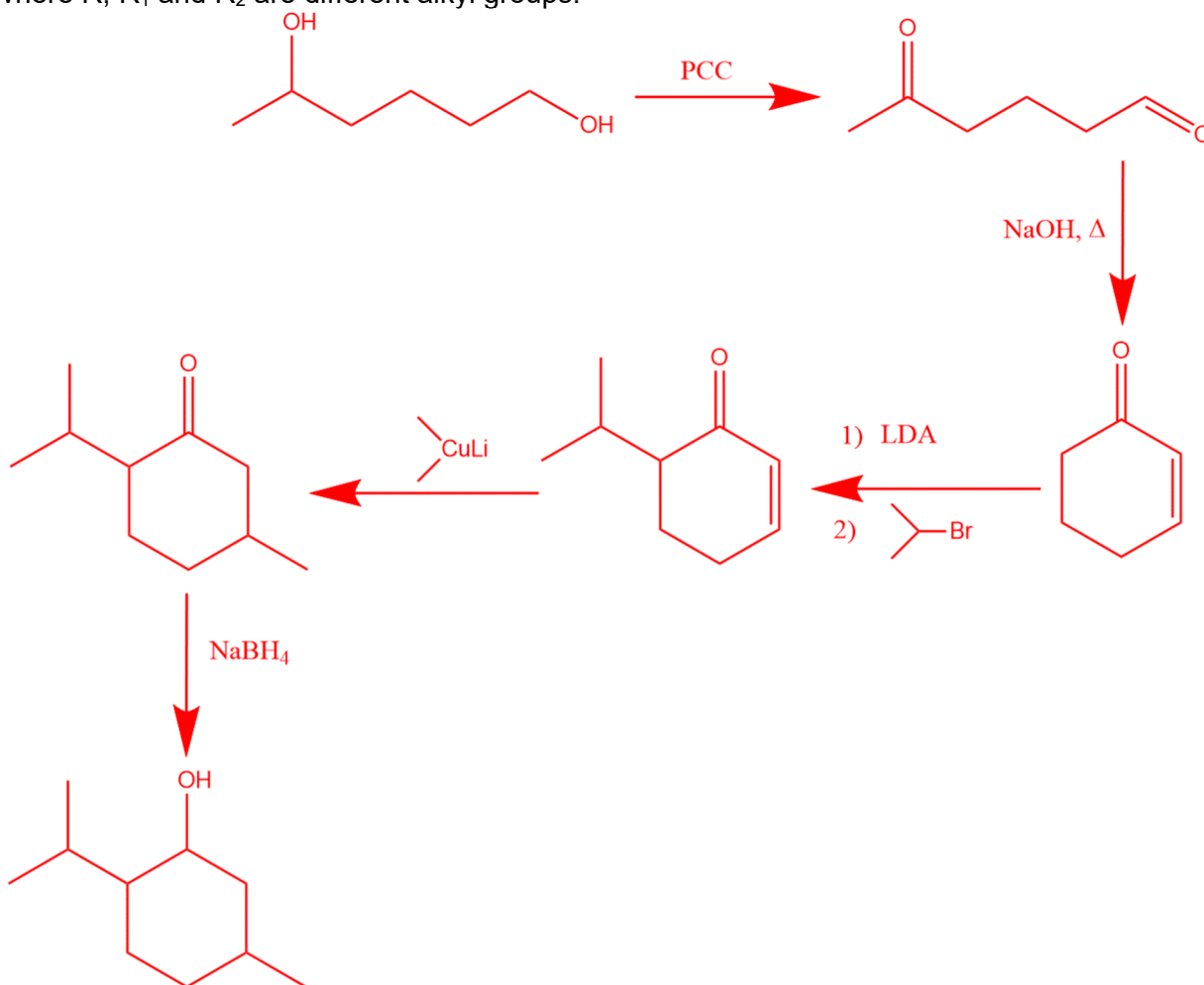
- b) Starting with hexan-1,5-diol and any organic and inorganic reagents you wish, devise a synthesis of menthol without stereochemistry. Clearly draw the entire scheme containing reagents and intermediates. **4 marks**



Hint: here's a reaction that may be useful; a **gilman** reagent is a lithium dialkyl cuprate salt that can perform conjugate addition reactions like so:

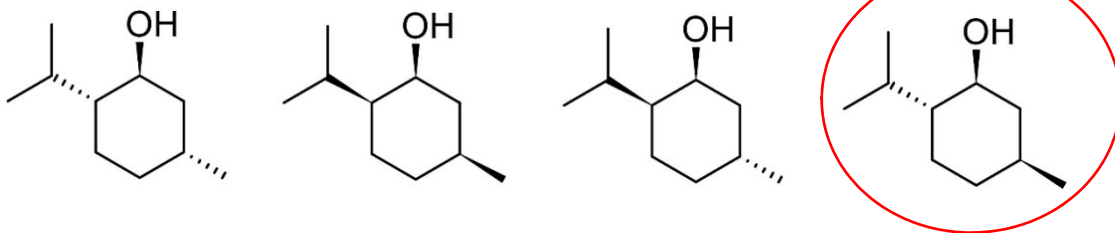


Where R, R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are different alkyl groups.



Official answer (other correct answers may also be accepted)

- c) The following structures are all stereoisomers of menthol. Assuming that all these structures are in their most stable conformations, circle the most stable stereoisomer. **2 marks**



## 2. ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

Colorless crystal **A** undergoes a thermal decomposition reaction to produce two gases **B** and **C**. When gas **B** is further heated to a higher temperature and then cooled down to the original temperature, the volume the gases increase by 50%. Although **A** is commonly used in agriculture as a fertilizer, it nevertheless is an oxidizing agent. **A** dissolve easily in water and causes the temperature of the solution to decrease noticeably and the resulting solution is slightly acidic (pH between 4.5 and 5.0). Heating equal moles of **A** and solid NaOH produces a gas **D** with unpleasant odor and a white solid **E**. When gas **D** is introduced into a AgNO<sub>3</sub> solution, a dark brown solid **F** is formed. However, when gas **D** is continuously introduced, a colorless solution is obtained. Heating solid **E** produces colorless gas **G** which is essential for combustion reaction and a white solid **H**. When **H** is treated with concentrated nitric acid, a brown color gas is evolved.

- a) Based on information given, please identify **A**, **B**, **C**, **D**, **E**, **F**, **G** and **H**.  
**4 marks (0.5 each)**

**A: NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>**

**B: N<sub>2</sub>O**

**C: H<sub>2</sub>O**

**D: NH<sub>3</sub>**

**E: NaNO<sub>3</sub>**

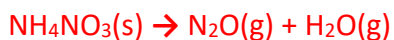
**F: Ag<sub>2</sub>O**

**G: O<sub>2</sub>**

**H: NaNO<sub>2</sub>**

- b) Write the chemical reaction equations for the following  
**4 marks (0.6 each, 0.4 last question)**

Reaction to produce **B & C**



Reaction for heating **B** to increase the volume by 50%



Reaction to produce **D & E**



Reaction to produce **F**



Reaction of **F** to produce the colorless solution



Reaction of **E** to produce **G** and **H**



Reaction of **H** to produce the brown color gas



Leucine  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHCH}_2\text{CH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{COOH}$  is on the top list of essential amino acids for human body. Leucine contains a carboxylic acid functional group and an amine functional group and has a  $\text{pK}_a = 2.36$  and  $\text{pK}_b = 4.40$ . Leucine has been used in the food industry and as healthy supplement.

c) Using your knowledge of Charge Balance and/or Mass Balance, calculate the pH of a 0.100M aqueous Leucine solution. Show your detailed work to earn full marks.

**2.5 marks**

Leucine will dissolve and form Zwitterion  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHCH}_2\text{CH}(\text{NH}_3^+)\text{COO}^-$

**Charge balance**

$$[\text{A}^-] + [\text{OH}^-] = [\text{A}^+] + [\text{H}^+] \quad (1.0 \text{ point})$$

$$K_a = [\text{A}^-][\text{H}^+] / [\text{A}]$$

$$[\text{A}^-] = K_a[\text{A}] / [\text{H}^+]$$

$$K_b = [\text{A}^+][\text{OH}^-] / [\text{A}]$$

$$[\text{A}^+] = K_b[\text{A}] / [\text{OH}^-]$$

**Approximation**

Since  $[\text{A}^+] \gg [\text{H}^+]$  and  $[\text{A}^-] \gg [\text{OH}^-]$

$$[\text{A}^+] \approx [\text{A}^-] \quad (0.5 \text{ points})$$

$$K_b[\text{A}] / [\text{OH}^-] = K_a[\text{A}] / [\text{H}^+]$$

$$K_b[\text{A}][\text{H}^+] / K_w = K_a[\text{A}] / [\text{H}^+]$$

$$[\text{H}^+]^2 = K_a[\text{A}] * K_w / K_b[\text{A}]$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = ( K_a * K_w / K_b )^{1/2} \quad (0.5 \text{ points})$$

$$\text{pH} = 5.98 \quad (0.5 \text{ points})$$

Any correct final pH value within an error of  $\pm 0.02$  will get **0.5** points.

In a lab, there are 0.100M NaOH, 0.120M HCl, oxalic acid primary standard ( $\text{H}_2\text{C}_2\text{O}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 126.07g/mol), Potassium Hydrogenphthalate primary standard ( $\text{KHC}_8\text{H}_4\text{O}_4$ , 204.22 g/mol), Tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane primary standard (**Tris**,  $(\text{HOCH}_2)_3\text{CNH}_2$ ,  $k_b = 1.15 \times 10^{-6}$ , 121.14g/mol), Sodium Carbonate primary standard ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ , 155.99g/mol), and three indicators, Phenolphthalein ( $\text{pK}_a = 9.4$ ), methyl orange ( $\text{pK}_a = 3.4$ ) and methyl red ( $\text{pK}_a = 4.95$ ).

- d) The purity of Leucine, which is going to be used in making dietary supplement, is to be determined by titration. A 2.000g of Leucine is taken to make a 250.00mL aqueous solution. Which of the afore listed chemicals would you use as the titrant? Which would you use as the indicator?

**0.5 mark**

Since the solution is acidic, so **NaOH** would be chosen as the titrant and **Phenolphthalein** would be chosen as the indicator.

**(0.25 points for each correct answer)**

- e) Which of the primary standards would you use to standardize your titrant?

**0.5 mark**

To standardize NaOH, either **Oxalic Acid** primary standard or **Potassium Hydrogenphthalate** primary standard will be chosen.

**(either one gets full points)**

- f) If 14.94mL of the titrant is required to reach the equivalence point for a 25.00mL aliquot of the analyte, what is the purity of the Leucine sample?

**0.5 mark**

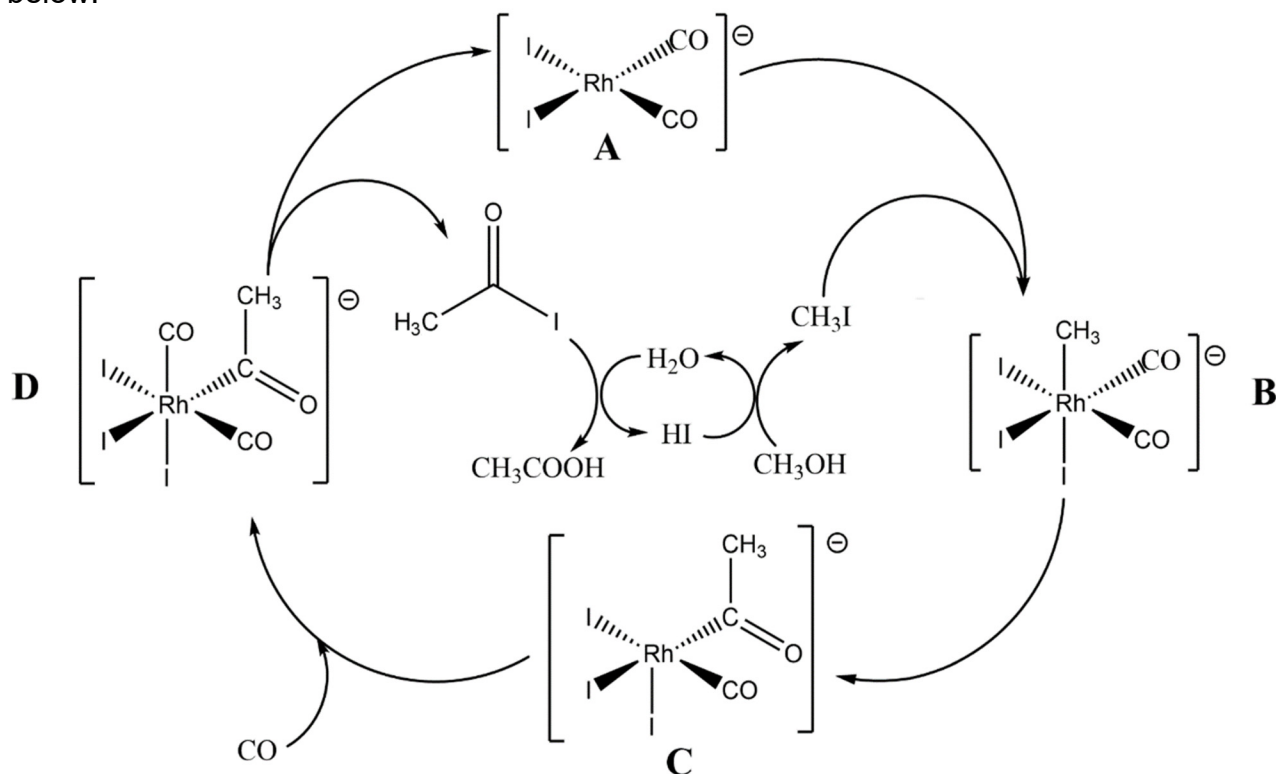
$$0.01494 * 0.100 * 10 * 131.17 / 2.000 = 97.98\%$$

**(97.48 ~ 98.48% gets full points)**



### 3. INORGANIC CHEMISTRY

The Monsanto process is a famous industrial catalytic cycle. The process is presented below:



Please answer the following questions pertaining to the Monsanto process:

- a) Write the *overall* balanced equation for the Monsanto process.

**1 mark**



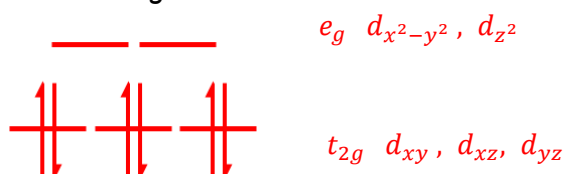
- b) For complex A, state which of its ligands are weak field and which are strong field, and also state whether the complex is a cis or trans isomer.

**1 mark**

iodide is weak field and CO is strong field (0.25 points each). The complex is in cis conformation (0.5 points).

- c) For complex B, draw its crystal field splitting diagram, making sure to fill in the electrons and label each d orbital. *Hint: complex B is diamagnetic.*

**2 marks**



This is just a typical low spin octahedral CFT diagram, with 6 electrons filling the  $t_{2g}$  set. 1 point for the d-orbital splitting, 0.5 points for labelling the orbitals correctly, and 0.5 points for filling in the electrons properly.

d) For complex C, state its geometry and coordination number.

**1 mark**

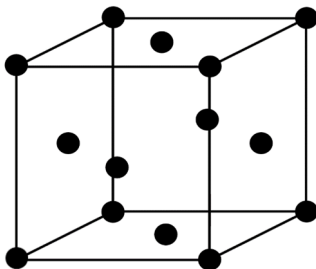
the geometry is square pyramidal (0.5 points) and the coordination number is 5 (0.5 points).

e) For complex D, state the metal's oxidation state and d-electron count.

**1 mark**

the oxidation state is +3 (0.5 points) and the d-electron count is 6 (0.5 points).

Rhodium, the metal used in the Monsanto process, crystallizes into the face centered cubic structure as shown below:



The lattice parameter (unit cell length) of the crystal is 0.380 nm.

f) State the number of atoms present in the unit cell.

**0.5 mark**

4

g) State the coordination number of Rh in the crystal.

**0.5 mark**

12

h) Calculate the density of Rh in  $\text{g cm}^{-3}$ .

**2 marks**

mass/volume:  $(4 \times 102.9) / (6.02214 \times 10^{23} \times (0.380 \times 10^{-7})^3) = 12.5 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$

1 point for general mass/volume expression, 0.5 points for correct answer, 0.5 points for correct units.

i) Calculate the volume of empty space in the unit cell of Rh in  $\text{nm}^3$ .

Hint: the volume of a sphere with radius  $r$  is given by:  $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$

**3 marks**

Rh atomic radius =  $0.380 \times \sqrt{2} / 4 = 0.134 \text{ nm}$  (1.5 points)

volume occupied by atoms:  $4 \times \frac{4}{3}\pi \times 0.134^3 = 0.0406 \text{ nm}^3$  (0.5 points)

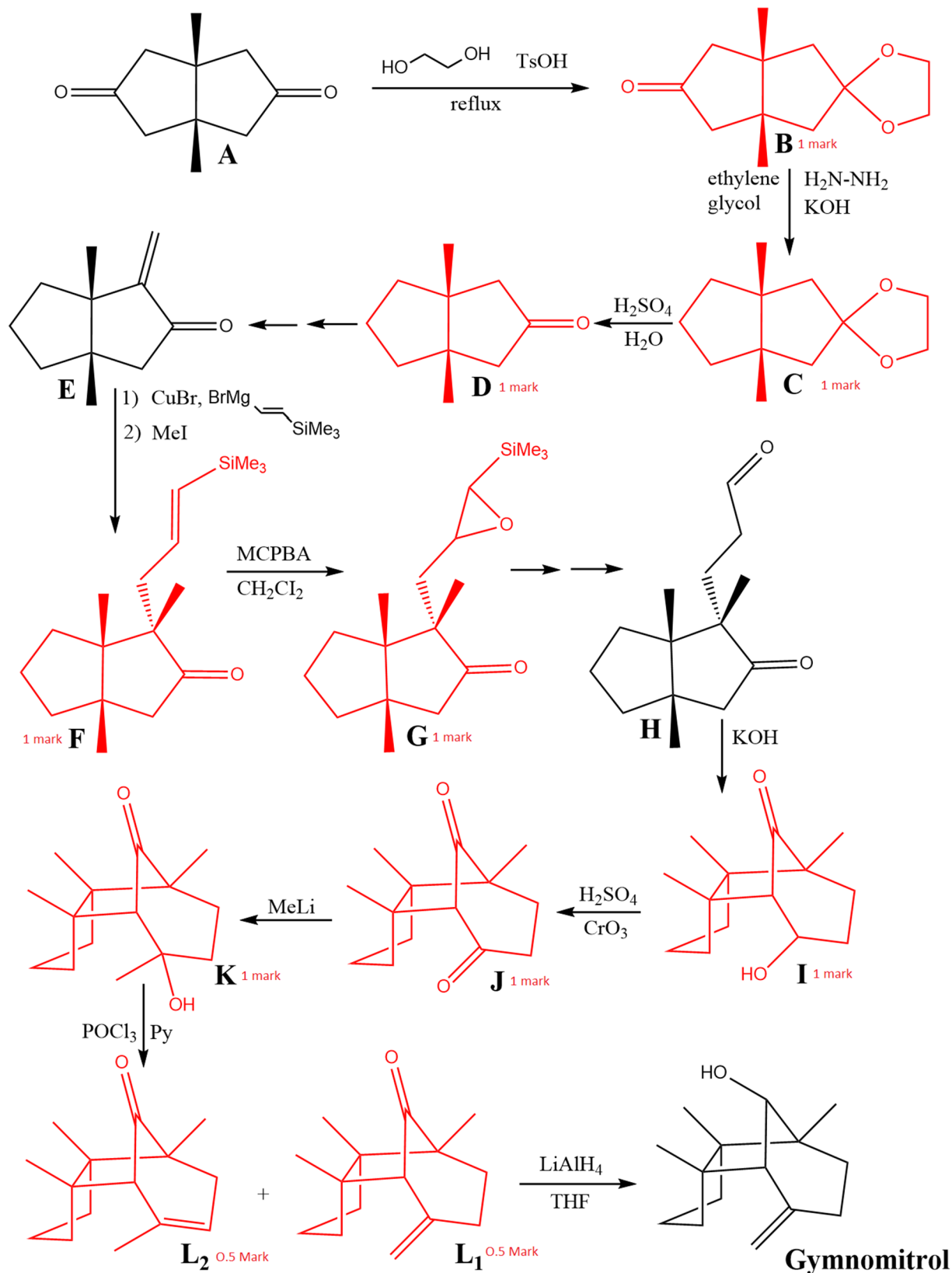
volume of unit cell:  $0.380^3 = 0.0549 \text{ nm}^3$  (0.5 points)

volume of empty space:  $0.0549 - 0.0406 = 0.0143 \text{ nm}^3$  (0.5 points)

## 4. ORGANIC CHEMISTRY and NMR spectroscopy

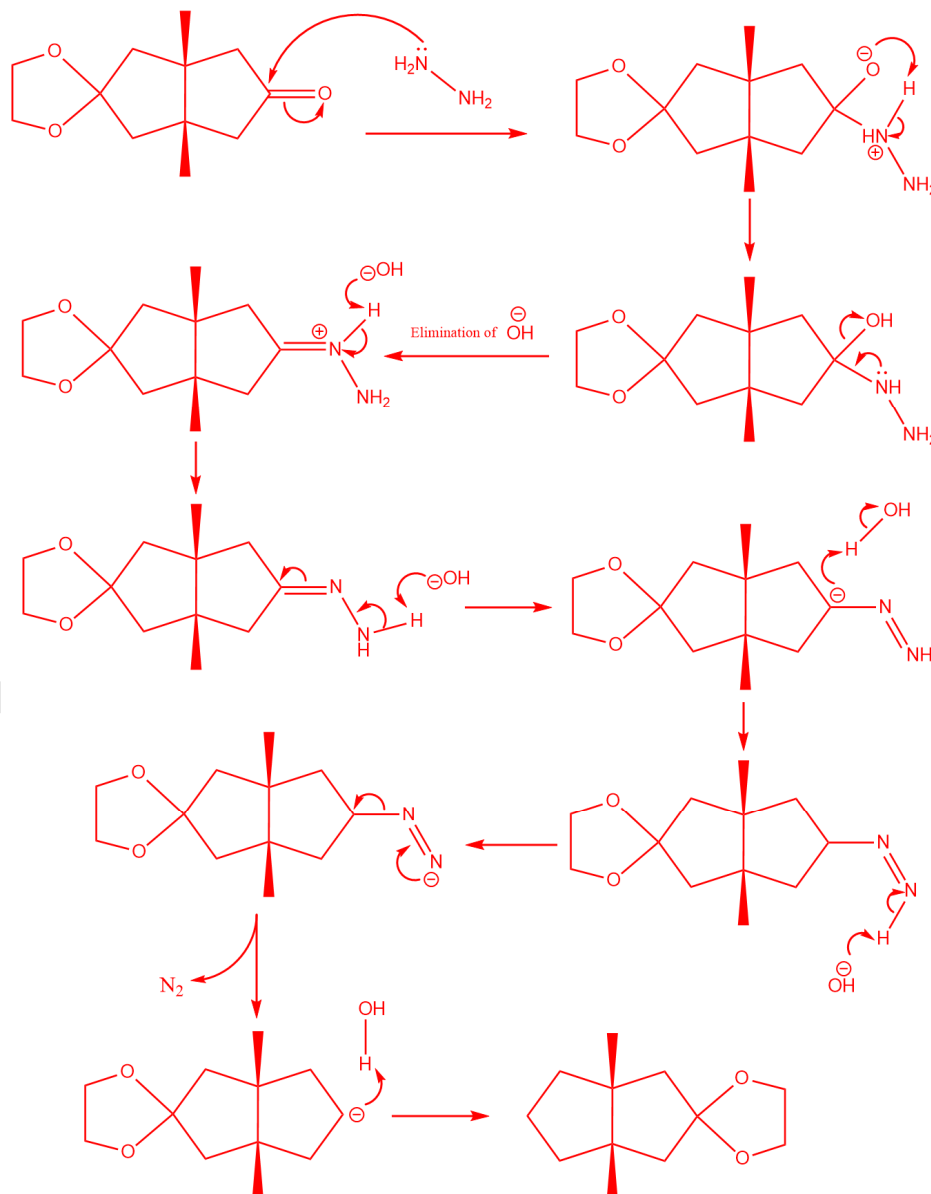
- a) The total synthesis of **Gymnomitrol** combines a wide variety of synthesis techniques. In step 1, only one side is reacted. Over the reaction sequence, a Michael addition and enolate attack are performed consecutively. Later in the sequence, an aldol addition is used to further cyclize the molecule. Given starting compound **A** and the following reaction sequence, identify compounds **C**, **D**, **F**, **G**, **I**, **J** and **K**. Structures **L<sub>1</sub>** and **L<sub>2</sub>** are both possible products from precursor **K**. Draw them both and note which one reacts to form Gymnomitrol.

9 marks



b) Step 2 in the synthesis of **Gymnomitrol** is known as a Wolff-Kishner Reduction. **Draw** the complete reaction mechanism.

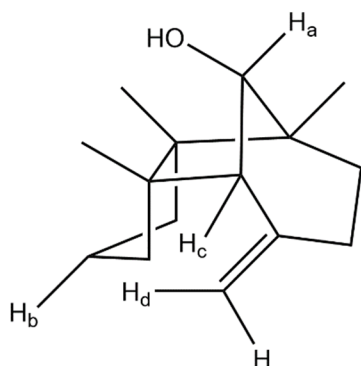
**1 mark**



1 point; 0.5 points for hydrazone formation, 0.5 points for deprotonation and condensation

c) The selected hydrogen atoms all appear in the condensed H-NMR spectrum. **Fill in the table** with the hydrogen atoms' corresponding H-NMR peaks.

**2 marks**



**Gymnomitrol**

Chemical shift options for peaks:  
5.00, 3.72, 1.65 and 2.53 ppm

Hydrogen atom	Chemical shift of peak (ppm)
a.	3.72
b.	1.65
c.	2.53
d.	5.00

## 5. PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

The following 2<sup>nd</sup>-order reaction:  $A(g) \rightarrow 2B(g)$  was carried out at  $T = 27^\circ\text{C}$  in a reaction vessel of constant volume. At the beginning of the reaction, only  $A(g)$  at  $P = 1\text{ atm}$  was present. After 100 minutes of reaction, the total pressure  $P$  in the vessel reaches  $1.5\text{ atm}$ . Assume that both  $A(g)$  and  $B(g)$  are ideal gases.

- a) Determine the half-life  $t_{1/2}$  and the rate constant  $k$  of the reaction at  $27^\circ\text{C}$ . State your units in atmosphere and minutes.

**3 marks**

	A	→	2B	P	<p style="text-align: center;">Or:</p> $P_B = 2(1 - P_A)$ $P_A + P_B = 1.5 \Rightarrow$ $P_A + 2(1 - P_A) = 1.5\text{ atm at } 100\text{ min}$ $P_A + 2 - 2P_A = 1.5$ $2 - 1.5 = P_A$ $P_A(100\text{ min}) = 0.5\text{ atm}$
I	1 atm		0	1 atm	
C	-x		+2x	+0.5	
E	1-x		2x	1.5 atm	

$$1 - x + 2x = 1.5$$

$$1 + x = 1.5$$

$$x = 0.5\text{ atm}$$

$$P_A(100\text{ min}) = 1 - 0.5 = 0.5\text{ atm}$$

$$P_A(100\text{ min}) = 0.5 \times P_A(0\text{ min}) \Rightarrow$$

$$t_{\frac{1}{2}} = 100\text{ min}$$

1 mark

$$2^{\text{nd}}\text{ order } k = \frac{1}{t_{\frac{1}{2}} P_A(0\text{ min})} = \frac{1}{100 \times 1} = 0.01\text{ atm}^{-1}\text{min}^{-1}$$

1 mark

*Remove 0.5 mark for missing or wrong units*

- b) Give the rate constant  $k$  using moles, litres and seconds for the units.

**1 mark**

$$[A]_0 = \frac{n}{V} = \frac{P_A(0\text{ min})}{RT} = \frac{1}{0.08206 \times 300} = 0.0406 \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{L}}$$

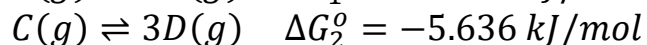
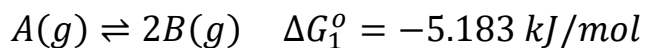
$$\text{or } = \frac{101325}{8.314 \times 300 \times 1000\text{L/m}^3} = 0.0406 \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{L}}$$

$$t_{\frac{1}{2}} = 100\text{ min} = 6000\text{ s}$$

$$k = \frac{1}{t_{\frac{1}{2}}[A]_0} = \frac{1}{6000 \times 0.0406} = 4.1 \times 10^{-3}\text{ mol}^{-1}\text{Ls}^{-1} \text{ or } 0.0041\text{ mol}^{-1}\text{Ls}^{-1}$$

*Remove 0.5 mark for missing or wrong units*

Consider a closed container of fixed size in contact with its surroundings maintained at a temperature of 298 K. The inside of this container is partitioned by a frictionless, movable wall into two compartments labeled 1 and 2, with initial volumes of  $V_1 = 5L$  and  $V_2 = 1L$ , respectively. In compartment 1, there is a gaseous equilibrium mixture of molecules  $A$  and  $B$  with a total pressure of 1 atm. In compartment 2, there is a gas of only compound  $C$  also with a pressure of 1 atm. A piece of metal catalyst of negligible volume is then introduced into compartment 2 which causes gas  $C$  to decompose into gaseous product  $D$  in an equilibrium reaction. This pushes the wall against compartment 1, which increases  $V_2$  and decreases  $V_1$ , also shifting the  $A \rightleftharpoons B$  equilibrium as according to Le Chatelier's principle. The wall is pushed until the reactions in both compartments reach a new state of equilibrium. The standard changes in Gibbs free energies for the two equilibria are:



Assume all gases are ideal.

- c) Calculate the initial number of moles for C.

**1 mark**

$$n = \frac{PV}{RT} = \frac{1 \times 1}{0.08206 \times 298} = 0.0409 \text{ mol}$$

$$\text{or } = \frac{101325 \times 0.001}{8.3145 \times 298} = 0.0409 \text{ mol}$$

*Remove 0.5 mark for missing or wrong units*

- d) Calculate the equilibrium constant for reaction 1 and 2.

**1 mark**

$$\Delta G^{\circ} = -RT \ln(K) \Rightarrow \ln(K) = \frac{-\Delta G^{\circ}}{RT} \Rightarrow$$

$$K_1 = e^{-\frac{\Delta G_1^{\circ}}{RT}} = e^{-\frac{5183}{8.3145 \times 298}} = 8.10 \quad 0.5 \text{ mark}$$

$$K_2 = e^{-\frac{\Delta G_2^{\circ}}{RT}} = e^{-\frac{5636}{8.3145 \times 298}} = 9.72 \quad 0.5 \text{ mark}$$

- e) Calculate the initial number of moles for A and B.  
**2 marks**

$$K_1 = \frac{P_B^2}{P_A} = 8.1 \quad \text{and} \quad P_B + P_A = 1 \text{ atm}$$

$$\frac{P_B^2}{P_A} = \frac{P_B^2}{1 - P_B} = 8.1 \Rightarrow P_B^2 = 8.1 - 8.1P_B \Rightarrow P_B^2 + 8.1P_B - 8.1 = 0$$

use quadratic equation to solve with  $a = 1, b = 8.1$  and  $c = -8.1$

$$\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} = 9.9 \text{ the solution is: } P_B = \frac{-8.1 + 9.9}{2} = 0.9 \text{ atm}$$

(The other root gives a negative pressure.)

$$P_A = 1 - 0.9 = 0.1 \text{ atm}$$

$$n = \frac{PV}{RT}$$

$$n_A = \frac{P_A V}{RT} = \frac{0.1 \times 5}{0.08206 \times 298} = 0.0204 \text{ mol} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{0.1 \times 101325 \times 0.005}{8.3145 \times 298} = 0.0204 \text{ mol}$$

$$n_B = \frac{P_B V}{RT} = \frac{0.9 \times 5}{0.08206 \times 298} = 0.184 \text{ mol} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{0.9 \times 101325 \times 0.005}{8.3145 \times 298} = 0.184 \text{ mol}$$

Remove 0.5 mark for missing or wrong units

We know that  $V_2$  will increase and  $V_1$  will decrease. To get a better idea of how the system may evolve we can define  $V_{max}$ , the maximum volume of compartment 2 and  $V_{min}$  the minimum volume of compartment 1. To answer f) and g) assume that both compartments are independent from one another and the sum of their volumes is not restricted.

- f) Calculate the value of  $V_{max}$ , the maximum volume of compartment 2 at 1 atm.  
**1 mark**

Initial moles of C,  $n_C = 0.0409 \text{ mol}$

$C \rightarrow 3D$ , therefore if the reaction is complete  $n_D = 3n_C = 3 \times 0.0409 = 0.1227 \text{ mol}$

$$V_{max} = \frac{n_D RT}{P}$$

$$\text{at 1 atm and 298 K, } V_{max} = \frac{0.1227 \times 0.08206 \times 298}{1} = 3 \text{ L}$$

- g) Calculate the value of  $V_{min}$ , the minimum volume of compartment 1 at 1 atm.  
**1 mark**

*Initial moles of A and B,  $n_A = 0.0204 \text{ mol}$  and  $n_B = 0.184 \text{ mol}$*

*$2B \rightarrow A$ , therefore if the reaction is complete  $n_A = 0.0204 + \frac{n_B}{2} = 0.1124 \text{ mol}$*

$$V_{min} = \frac{n_A RT}{P}$$

at 1 atm and 298 K, 
$$V_{min} = \frac{0.1124 \times 0.08206 \times 298}{1} = 2.75 \text{ L}$$

- h) Once a new state of equilibrium is reached the pressure of the system has changed and the volume of compartment 1 reach 4L. Determine the value of the new equilibrium pressure in the container.

**2 marks**

$$n_A = 0.0204 + \frac{0.184 - n_B}{2} = \frac{0.0408 + 0.184 - n_B}{2} = \frac{0.2248 - n_B}{2}$$

$$n_A = \frac{P_A V_1}{RT} = 0.16357 P_A \quad \text{and} \quad n_B = \frac{P_B V_1}{RT} = 0.16357 P_B$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.16357 P_A = \frac{0.2248 - 0.16357 P_B}{2}$$

$$P_A = \frac{0.2248 - 0.16357 P_B}{0.32714}$$

substitute in  $\frac{P_B^2}{P_A} = 8.1 \Rightarrow \frac{0.32714 P_B^2}{0.2248 - 0.16357 P_B} = 8.1$

$$\Rightarrow 0.32714 P_B^2 = 1.82088 - 1.324917 P_B \Rightarrow 0.32714 P_B^2 + 1.324917 P_B - 1.82088$$

$$a = 0.32714$$

$$b = 1.324917$$

$$c = -1.82088$$

$$\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} = 2.034$$

$$P_B = \frac{-1.324917 + 2.034}{2 \times 0.32714} = 1.084 \text{ atm}$$

$$P_A = \frac{P_B^2}{8.1} = 0.145 \text{ atm}$$

$$P = P_A + P_B = 1.23 \text{ atm}$$

*(Give 1 mark for 1.084 or 0.145 atm. 2 marks for 1.23 atm)*

**-END OF PART C-**