

DETAILED SYLLABUS FOR THE POST OF
WORK ASSISTANT IN THE KERALA CERMICS LIMITED /
ASSISTANT CHEMIST IN TRAVANCORE TITANIUM PRODUCTS LIMITED

(Category Nos.: 407/2019 & 80/2021)

1) Atomic structure and chemical bonding

(10 marks)

Bohr's theory, atomic spectrum of hydrogen atom, de Broglie equation, Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle, Schrödinger's wave equation, Quantum numbers and their significance, Shapes of *s*, *p*, *d* and *f* orbitals. Pauli's Exclusion Principle, Hund's rule of maximum multiplicity, Aufbau's principle, Variation of orbital energy with atomic number, *s*, *p*, *d*, *f* block elements and their properties. Shielding effect, Slater rules, variation of effective nuclear charge in periodic table. Ionization enthalpy, factors affecting ionization energy, applications of ionization enthalpy. Electron gain enthalpy, trends of electron gain enthalpy. Electronegativity, Pauling's/ Mulliken's and Allred Rachow's electronegativity scales, hybridization, Inert pair effect, relative stability of different oxidation states, diagonal relationship and anomalous behaviour of first member of each group. Structure, bonding, preparation, properties and uses of boric acid and borates, boron nitrides, borohydrides (diborane), carboranes, silanes, Oxides and oxoacids of nitrogen, phosphorus and chlorine, Peroxo acids of sulphur, interhalogen compounds, polyhalide ions, pseudohalogens and basic properties of halogens. Occurrence and uses of noble gases, clathrates; preparation and properties of XeF₂, XeF₄ and XeF₆.

Radius ratio rule, Born-Haber cycle and its application, Solvation energy. Lewis structure, valence bond theory, resonance and resonance energy, Molecular orbital theory. Molecular orbital diagrams of diatomic and simple polyatomic molecules N₂, O₂, C₂, B₂, F₂, CO, NO, and their ions; Formal charge, Valence shell electron pair repulsion theory (VSEPR), shapes of simple molecules and ions containing lone pairs and bond pairs of electrons, Covalent character in ionic compounds, polarizing power and polarizability. Fajan's rules and consequences of polarization. Ionic character in covalent compounds: Bond moment and dipole moment. Percentage ionic character from dipole moment and electronegativity difference. Semiconductors and insulators, defects in solids. van der Waals forces, Hydrogen bonding and its effects on melting and boiling points, solubility and energetic of dissolution process.

2) Coordination chemistry, metallurgy and bioinorganic chemistry

(10 marks)

Werner's theory, IUPAC nomenclature of coordination compounds, isomerism in coordination compounds. Stereochemistry of complexes with 4 and 6 coordination numbers. Chelate effect, valence bond theory (inner and outer orbital complexes), back bonding. Crystal field theory, CFSE in weak and strong fields, pairing energies, factors affecting the magnitude of 10 Dq (Δ_o , Δ_t). Octahedral vs. tetrahedral coordination, tetragonal distortions from octahedral geometry Jahn-Teller theorem, square planar geometry. Qualitative aspect of Ligand field and MO Theory. Substitution reactions in square planar complexes, Trans- effect, mechanism of nucleophilic substitution in square planar complexes, Thermodynamic and Kinetic stability, Kinetics of octahedral substitution, Ligand field effects and reaction rates, Mechanism of substitution in octahedral complexes.

Chief modes of occurrence of metals, electrolytic Reduction, hydrometallurgy, methods of purification of metals: Electrolytic, Kroll process, van Arkel and Mond's process, Zone refining. Metal ions present in biological systems, classification of elements according to their action in biological system. Sodium / K-pump, carbonic anhydrase and carboxypeptidase. Excess and deficiency of some trace metals. Toxicity of metal ions (Hg, Pb, Cd and As), reasons for toxicity, Use of chelating agents in medicine. Iron and its application in bio-systems, Haemoglobin; Storage and transfer of iron.

3) Organometallic compounds

(7 marks)

Classification of organometallic compounds on the basis of bond type. Concept of hapticity of organic ligands. Metal carbonyls: 18 electron rule, electron count of mononuclear, polynuclear and substituted metal carbonyls of 3d series. General methods of preparation (direct combination, reductive carbonylation, thermal and photochemical decomposition) of mono and binuclear carbonyls of 3d series. Structures of mononuclear and binuclear carbonyls of Cr, Mn, Fe, Co and Ni using VBT. acceptor behaviour of CO, synergic effect and use of IR data to explain extent of back bonding. Zeise's salt: Preparation and structure.

Metal Alkyls: Important structural features of methyl lithium (tetramer) and trialkyl aluminium (dimer), concept of multicentre bonding in these compounds. Role of triethylaluminium in polymerisation of ethene (Ziegler – Natta Catalyst). Ferrocene: Preparation and reactions (acetylation, alkylation, metallation, Mannich Condensation). Structure and aromaticity. Comparison of aromaticity and reactivity with that of benzene. Mechanism of Alkene hydrogenation (Wilkinson's Catalyst), Hydroformylation (Co salts), Wacker Process, Synthetic gasoline (Fischer Tropsch reaction).

4) Qualitative and quantitative aspects of analysis

(7 marks)

Sampling, evaluation of analytical data, errors, accuracy and precision, methods of their expression, statistical test of data; F, Q and t test

Basic principles involved in analysis of cations and anions and solubility products, common ion effect. Principles involved in separation of cations into groups and choice of group reagents. Interfering anions (fluoride, borate, oxalate and phosphate) and need to remove them after Group II.

Flame Atomic Absorption and Emission Spectrometry: Basic principles, Techniques of atomization and sample introduction; sources of chemical interferences and their method of removal. Techniques for the quantitative estimation of trace level of metal ions from samples. Classification of electroanalytical methods, basic principle of pH metric, potentiometric and conductometric titrations. Techniques used for the determination of pK_a values. Theory of thermogravimetry (TG), Techniques for quantitative estimation of Ca and Mg from their mixture. Complexometric titration: EDTA titration.

5) Organic reaction mechanism and stereochemistry

(7 marks)

Classification and nomenclature of organic compounds, hybridization, Inductive, electromeric, resonance and mesomeric effects, hyperconjugation and their applications. Organic acids and bases; their relative strength. Homolytic and heterolytic fission, electrophiles and nucleophiles; Types, shape and their relative stability of carbocations, carbanions, free radicals and carbenes. Introduction to types of organic reactions and their mechanism: Addition, Elimination and Substitution reactions.

Fischer Projection, Newmann and Sawhorse Projection formulae and their interconversions; Geometrical isomerism: cis-trans and, syn-anti isomerism E/Z notations with C.I.P rules. *Optical Isomerism*: Optical Activity, Specific Rotation, Chirality/Asymmetry, Enantiomers, Molecules with two or more chiral-centres, Distereoisomers, meso structures, Racemic mixture and resolution. Relative and absolute configuration: D/L and R/S designations.

Applications of IR, UV and NMR for identification of simple organic molecules.

6) Aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons

(6 marks)

Formation of alkanes, Wurtz Reaction, Wurtz-Fittig Reactions, Free radical substitutions: Halogenation-relative reactivity and selectivity. Formation of alkenes and alkynes by elimination reactions, Mechanism of E1, E2, E1cb reactions. Saytzeff and Hofmann eliminations. *Reactions of alkenes*: Electrophilic additions their mechanisms (Markownikoff/ Anti Markownikoff addition), mechanism of oxymercuration-demercuration, hydroboration-oxidation, ozonolysis, reduction (catalytic and chemical), syn and anti-hydroxylation (oxidation), 1,2 and 1,4-addition reactions in conjugated dienes, Diels-Alder reaction; Allylic and benzylic bromination and mechanism, *Reactions of alkynes*: Acidity, Electrophilic and Nucleophilic additions. Hydration to form carbonyl compounds, Alkylation of terminal alkynes. Types of cycloalkanes and their relative stability, Baeyer strain theory, Conformation analysis of alkanes and cyclohexane.

Aromaticity: Hückel's rule, aromatic character of arenes, cyclic carbocations/carbanions and heterocyclic compounds with suitable examples. Electrophilic aromatic substitution: halogenation, nitration, sulphonation and Friedel-Craft's alkylation/acylation with their mechanism. Directing effects of the groups. Preparation and reactions of naphthalene, phenanthrene and anthracene.

1) Halogenated hydrocarbons and heterocyclic compounds (6 marks)

Alkyl halides: Methods of preparation, nucleophilic substitution reactions – S_N1, S_N2 and S_Ni mechanisms with stereochemical aspects and effect of solvent etc.; nucleophilic substitution vs. elimination.

Aryl halides: Methods of preparation, nucleophilic aromatic substitution; S_NAr, Benzyne mechanism. Relative reactivity of alkyl, allyl/benzyl, vinyl and aryl halides towards nucleophilic substitution reactions. Organometallic compounds of Mg and Li – use in synthesis of organic compounds.

Classification and nomenclature, Structure, aromaticity in 5-membered and 6-membered rings containing one heteroatom; Synthesis, reactions and mechanism of substitution reactions of: Furan, Pyrrole (Paal-Knorr synthesis, Knorr pyrrole synthesis, Hantzsch synthesis), Thiophene, Pyridine (Hantzsch synthesis), Pyrimidine, Skraup synthesis, Friedlander's synthesis, Knorr quinoline synthesis, Bischler-Napieralski reaction Derivatives of furan: Furfural and furoic acid.

2) Alcohols, phenols, ethers, epoxides and nitrogen compounds (6 marks)

Alcohols: preparation, properties and relative reactivity of 1°, 2°, 3° alcohols, Bouvaelt-Blanc Reduction; Preparation and properties of glycols: Oxidation by periodic acid and lead tetraacetate, Pinacol-Pinacolone rearrangement.

Phenols: Preparation and properties; Acidity and factors effecting it, Ring substitution reactions, Reimer-Tiemann and Kolbe's-Schmidt Reactions, Fries and Claisen rearrangements with mechanism.

Ethers and Epoxides: Preparation and reactions with acids. Reactions of epoxides with alcohols, ammonia derivatives and LiAlH₄

Preparation and important reactions of nitro compounds, nitriles, isonitriles and amines: Effect of substituent and solvent on basicity of amines; Gabriel phthalimide synthesis, Carbylamine reaction, Mannich reaction, Hoffmann's exhaustive methylation, Hofmann-elimination reaction; Distinction between 1°, 2° and 3° amines with Hinsberg reagent and nitrous acid. Diazonium Salts: Preparation and their synthetic applications.

3) Carbonyl compounds, carboxylic acids and their derivatives (6 marks)

Structure, reactivity and preparation of carbonyl compounds. Nucleophilic additions, Nucleophilic addition-elimination reactions with ammonia derivatives. Mechanisms of Aldol and Benzoin condensation, Knoevenagel condensation, Claisen-Schmidt, Perkin, Cannizzaro and Wittig reaction, Beckmann and Benzil-Benzilic acid rearrangements, haloform reaction and Baeyer Villiger oxidation, α- substitution reactions, oxidations and reductions (Clemmensen, Wolff-Kishner, LiAlH₄, NaBH₄, MPV), Michael addition. Active methylene compounds: Keto-enol tautomerism. Preparation and synthetic applications of diethyl malonate and ethyl acetoacetate. Preparation, physical properties and reactions of monocarboxylic acids. Typical reactions of dicarboxylic acids, hydroxy acids and unsaturated acids: succinic/phthalic, lactic, malic, tartaric, citric, maleic and fumaric acids. Preparation and reactions of acid chlorides, anhydrides, esters and amides; Comparative study of nucleophilic substitution at acyl group -Mechanism of acidic and alkaline hydrolysis of esters, Claisen condensation, Dieckmann and Reformatsky reactions, Hofmann- bromamide degradation and Curtius rearrangement.

4) Gaseous, liquid and solid states (6 marks)

kinetic gas equation, collision frequency, collision diameter, mean free path and viscosity of gases, relation between mean free path and coefficient of viscosity, variation of viscosity with temperature and pressure. Maxwell distribution and its use in evaluating molecular velocities (average, root mean square and most probable), law of equipartition of energy, degrees of freedom and molecular basis of

heat capacities. Behaviour of real gases: Deviations from ideal gas behaviour, compressibility factor, Z , and its variation with pressure for different gases. van der Waals equation of state, virial equation of state; van der Waals equation expressed in virial form and calculation of Boyle temperature. Isotherms of real gases and their comparison with van der Waals isotherms, continuity of states, critical state, relation between critical constants and van der Waals constants, law of corresponding states. physical properties of liquids; vapour pressure, surface tension and coefficient of viscosity, and their determination. Effect of addition of various solutes on surface tension and viscosity. Cleansing action of detergents. Temperature variation of viscosity of liquids and comparison with that of gases. Nature of the solid state, law of constancy of interfacial angles, law of rational indices, Miller indices, elementary ideas of symmetry, symmetry elements and symmetry operations, qualitative idea of point and space groups, seven crystal systems and fourteen Bravais lattices; X-ray diffraction, Bragg's law, Analysis of powder diffraction patterns of NaCl, CsCl and KCl. Defects in crystals. Glasses and liquid crystals.

5) Ionic and chemical equilibria, phase equilibria

(6 marks)

Degree of ionization, factors affecting degree of ionization, ionization constant and ionic product of water. Ionization of weak acids and bases, pH scale, common ion effect, dissociation constants of mono-, di- and triprotic acids. Salt hydrolysis-calculation of hydrolysis constant, degree of hydrolysis and pH for different salts. Buffer solutions, Henderson equation and its applications, buffer capacity, buffer action and applications of buffers in analytical chemistry and biochemical processes in the human body. Solubility and solubility product of sparingly soluble salts – applications of solubility product principle. Qualitative treatment of acid – base titration curves (calculation of pH at various stages). Theory of acid–base indicators; selection of indicators and their limitations. Criteria of thermodynamic equilibrium, chemical equilibria in ideal gases, concept of fugacity. Thermodynamic relation between Gibbs free energy of reaction and reaction quotient. Equilibrium constants and their quantitative dependence on temperature, pressure and concentration. Free energy of mixing and spontaneity; relations between the various equilibrium constants K_p , K_c and K_x . Le Chatelier principle. Concept of phases, components and degrees of freedom, Clausius-Clapeyron equation and its applications to solid- liquid, liquid-vapour and solid-vapour equilibria, phase diagram for one component systems, with applications. Phase diagrams for systems of solid-liquid equilibria involving eutectic, congruent and incongruent melting points, solid solutions. Three component systems, water-chloroform-acetic acid system *Binary solutions*: Gibbs-Duhem-Margules equation and its applications to fractional distillation of binary miscible liquids (ideal and nonideal), azeotropes, partial miscibility of liquids, CST, miscible pairs, steam distillation. Nernst distribution law and its applications Dilute solutions, lowering of vapour pressure, Raoult's and Henry's Laws and their applications. Applications of relative lowering of vapour pressure, elevation of boiling point, depression of freezing point and osmotic pressure in calculating molar masses of solutes in solution.

6) Chemical thermodynamics

(6 marks)

Intensive and extensive variables; state and path functions; isolated, closed and open systems; zeroth law of thermodynamics. Concept of heat (q), work (w), internal energy (U) and statement of first law, enthalpy (H), relation between heat capacities, calculations of q , w , U and H for reversible, irreversible and free expansion of gases (ideal and van der Waals) under isothermal and adiabatic conditions. Heats of reactions: standard states; enthalpy of formation of molecules and ions and enthalpy of combustion and its applications; calculation of bond energy, bond dissociation energy and resonance energy from thermochemical data, effect of temperature (Kirchhoff's equations) and pressure on enthalpy of reactions. Concept of entropy; thermodynamic scale of temperature, statement of the second law of thermodynamics. Calculation of entropy change for reversible and irreversible processes. Statement of third law, concept of residual entropy, calculation of absolute entropy of molecules. Gibbs and Helmholtz energy; variation of S , G , A with T , V , P ; Free energy change and spontaneity. Relation between Joule-Thomson coefficient and other thermodynamic parameters; inversion temperature; Gibbs-Helmholtz equation; Maxwell relations; thermodynamic equation of state.

7) Chemical kinetics, surface chemistry and catalysis**(5 marks)**

Order and molecularity of a reaction, rate laws in terms of the advancement of a reaction, differential and integrated form of rate expressions up to second order reactions, experimental methods of the determination of rate laws, kinetics of complex reactions, opposing reactions parallel reactions and consecutive reactions and their differential rate equations (steady-state approximation in reaction mechanisms), chain reactions. Temperature dependence of reaction rates, Arrhenius equation, activation energy. Collision theory of reaction rates, Lindemann mechanism, Physical adsorption, chemisorption, adsorption isotherms. nature of adsorbed state. Types of catalyst, specificity and selectivity, mechanisms of catalyzed reactions at solid surfaces; effect of particle size and efficiency of nanoparticles as catalysts. Enzyme catalysis, Michaelis-Menten mechanism, acid-base catalysis.

8) Electrochemistry**(6 marks)**

Conductivity, equivalent and molar conductivity and their variation with dilution for weak and strong electrolytes. Molar conductivity at infinite dilution. Kohlrausch law of independent migration of ions. Debye-Hückel-Onsager equation, Wien effect, Debye-Falkenhagen effect, Walden's rules. Ionic velocities, mobilities and their determinations, transference numbers and their relation to ionic mobilities, determination of transference numbers using Hittorf and Moving Boundary methods. Applications of conductance measurement: Quantitative aspects of Faraday's laws of electrolysis, rules of oxidation/reduction of ions based on half-cell potentials, applications of electrolysis in metallurgy and industry. Chemical cells, reversible and irreversible cells with examples. Electromotive force of a cell and its measurement, Nernst equation; Standard electrode (reduction) potential and its application to different kinds of half-cells. Application of EMF measurements in determining free energy, enthalpy and entropy of a cell reaction, equilibrium constants, and pH values, using hydrogen, quinone-hydroquinone and glass electrodes. Concentration cells with and without transference, liquid junction potential; determination of activity coefficients and transference numbers. potentiometric titrations (acid-base, redox, precipitation).

9) Molecular spectroscopy**(6 marks)**

Interaction of electromagnetic radiation with molecules and various types of spectra; Born-Oppenheimer approximation. Rotation spectroscopy: Selection rules, intensities of spectral lines, determination of bond lengths of diatomic and linear triatomic molecules, isotopic substitution. Vibrational spectroscopy: Classical equation of vibration, computation of force constant, amplitude of diatomic molecular vibrations, anharmonicity, Morse potential, dissociation energies, fundamental frequencies, overtones, hot bands, degrees of freedom for polyatomic molecules, modes of vibration, concept of group frequencies. Vibration-rotation spectroscopy: diatomic vibrating rotator, P, Q, R branches. Raman spectroscopy: Qualitative treatment of Rotational Raman effect; Effect of nuclear spin, Vibrational Raman spectra, Stokes and anti-Stokes lines; their intensity difference, rule of mutual exclusion. Electronic spectroscopy: Franck-Condon principle, electronic transitions, singlet and triplet states, fluorescence and phosphorescence, dissociation and predissociation. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy: Principles of NMR spectroscopy, Larmor precession, chemical shift and low resolution spectra, different scales, spin-spin coupling and high resolution spectra, interpretation of PMR spectra of organic molecules. Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) spectroscopy: principle, hyperfine structure, ESR of simple radicals.

NOTE: - It may be noted that apart from the topics detailed above, questions from other topics prescribed for the educational qualification of the post may also

appear in the question paper. There is no undertaking that all the topics above may be covered in the question paper