



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

MAIN EXAMINATION

JANUARY - APRIL 2017 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

REGULAR PROGRAMME

CHEM 301: COORDINATION CHEMISTRY

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Date: APRIL 2017

Duration: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other Two Questions

Q1.

- a) Explain what you understand by each of the following (3Marks)
- Excitation
 - Atomic orbitals
- b) Write the names of the following ligands as used in coordination Chemistry. (3Marks)
- $C_2O_4^{2-}$
 - NO
 - NCS^-
- c) For each of the following complexes indicate coordination number, oxidation state and electronic configuration of the central metal ion. (3Marks)
- $[Co(en)_3]Cl_3$
 - $[Fe(CN)_6]^{4-}$
- d) State any **FOUR** applications of ethylenediaminetetracetic acid. (4Marks)
- e) i. Determine the oxidation number of ruthenium in



ii. Give the name of the compound in (i) above. (1Mark)

iii. Explain what you understand by “*oxidation number of the complex*”. (1Mark)

f) Name the following compounds: (3Marks)

- i. $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]\text{Cl}_3$
- ii. $[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)_3]_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$
- iii. $[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)_2\text{Cl}_2]\text{Cl}$

g) Define each of the following. Giving an example for each. (4Marks)

- i. Homoleptic complexes.
- ii. Heteroleptic complexes.

h) Outline **two** difference between a diamagnetic complex and a paramagnetic one. (6Marks)

Q2.

a) What is hybridization and why is it important? (3Marks)

b) Draw the shapes of the various d-orbitals, and **explain** why they are split into two groups t_{2g} and e_g in an octahedral field. (7Marks)

c) Describe briefly three main transitions, that occur in electronic spectra of transition metal complexes. (6Marks)

d) State what causes each of the following in the compounds of transition elements. (4Marks)

- i. Colour
- ii. Formation of compounds in many oxidation states (variable valency).
- iii. Paramagnetic property.
- iv. Catalytic activity.

Q3.

a) i. Explain what you understand by “a racemic mixture”. (2Marks)

ii. Explain its effect on the plane polarized light and why? (3Marks)

b) Given $\text{Na}_3[\text{Cr}(\text{CN})_6]$, which ions are:

- i. Covalently bonded?
- ii. Ionically bonded? (2Marks)

c) i. Write the name of $[\text{Co}(\text{en})_2(\text{NO}_2)\text{Cl}]\text{SCN}$. (1Mark)

ii. Give the formulae of two other ionization isomers that can be obtained from $[\text{Co}(\text{en})_2(\text{NO}_2)\text{Cl}]\text{SCN}$ and name them. **(4Marks)**

d) i. Name the type of isomerism shown by the following two compounds

$[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_4\text{Cl}_2]\text{Br}$ and $\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_4\text{ClBr}]\text{Cl}$ **(1Mark)**

ii. Draw their structures and name them. **(4Marks)**

iii. Which of these two will form a white precipitate with AgNO_3 solution. Explain. **(3Marks)**

Q4.

a) Draw and label the shapes of p-orbitals. **(3Marks)**

b) State three Assumptions made in the Crystal Field Theory. **(3Marks)**

c) State and explain the factors that affect the Crystal Field Stabilization Energy (CFSE). **(8Marks)**

d) Give three failures or limitations of the Crystal Field Theory. **(6Marks)**

Q5.

a) With the help of balanced chemical equations, describe briefly how you would distinguish the compounds: $[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]\text{Cl}_3$, $[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}_2$ and $[\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4\text{Cl}_2]\text{Cl}$. **(6Marks)**

b) Explain the following, giving an example for each. **(4Marks)**

i. Counter ion

ii. Ambidentate ligand

c) State and explain **any 5** applications//importance of coordination compounds. **(10Marks)**

END