

GCSE (9–1) Twenty First Century Combined Science B Lesson Element

Writing the formulae of compounds



Instructions and answers for teachers

These instructions should accompany the OCR resource 'Writing the formulae of compounds' activity which supports OCR GCSE (9–1) Twenty First Century Combined Science B.



Task instructions

This activity summarises the writing of formulae of compounds using ions and the cross-over rule. After introducing the ionic bonding and cross over rule, issue the worksheet for students to practise writing formulae.

Objective

For students to be able to apply the knowledge of ions and ionic bonding to written formulae.



This resource is an exemplar of the types of materials that will be provided to assist in the teaching of the new qualifications being developed for first teaching in 2016. It can be used to teach existing qualifications but may be updated in the future to reflect changes in the new qualifications. Please check the OCR website for updates and additional resources being released. We would welcome your feedback so please get in touch.

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Questions to expect from students

Why do we have to put brackets on ions made of group of atoms such as NH_4^+ ? Because NH_4^+ represents one ion like a parcel that cannot be changed.

Task 1

Work out the formulae and write your answers in the appropriate spaces using the 'Cross over rule' and the table containing cations and anions:

	(SO ₄) ²⁻	Cl	O ²⁻	(NO ₃) ⁻	(OH) ⁻
	sulfate	chloride	oxide	nitrate	hydroxide
Na⁺					
sodium	Na ₂ SO ₄	NaCl	Na ₂ O	NaNO ₃	NaOH
Fe ²⁺					
Iron (II)	FeSO₄	FeCl ₂	FeO	Fe(NO ₃) ₂	Fe(OH) ₂
Al ³⁺					
aluminium	$AI_2(SO_4)_3$	AICI ₃	Al ₂ O ₃	AI(NO ₃) ₃	AI(OH) ₃
Mg ²⁺					
magnesium	MgSO₄	MgCl ₂	MgO	Mg(NO ₃) ₂	Mg(OH) ₂
Ca ²⁺					
calcium	CaSO ₄	CaCl ₂	CaO	Ca(NO ₃) ₂	Ca(OH) ₂
K⁺					
potassium	K ₂ SO ₄	KCI	K ₂ O	KNO₃	КОН
Cu ²⁺					
copper(II)	CuSO ₄	CuCl ₂	CuO	Cu(NO ₃) ₂	Cu(OH)₂
$(NH_4)^+$					
ammonium	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄	NH₄CI	(NH ₄) ₂ O	NH4NO3	NH₄OH
Iron(III)	$Fe_2(SO_4)_3$	FeCl ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	Fe(NO ₃) ₃	Fe(OH) ₃

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Task 2

What is wrong about each of the following formulae?

Write the correct one in the answer box below.

a) AIOH ₃
AI(OH) ₃
b) Fe(III)Cl ₃
FeCl ₃
c) Omg
MgO
d) (Na) ₂ O
Na ₂ O

Extension activity

Give students the names of compounds in words and ask them to write their correct formula.



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