



Practical Skills Pack

for BTEC National Applied Science Unit 3

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Teacher's Introduction

This practical skills support pack has been designed as a tool to enable your students to gain mastery of the content required to succeed in Unit 3 of the BTEC Level 3 National Applied Science course. It aims to break away from the more prescriptive methods available, allowing students to grow in confidence and independence as they develop their practical skills.

This resource consists of 10 practicals; two for each section of the subject-specific content found in Unit 3. Each practical will allow students the opportunity to consolidate their learning and apply their scientific skills to planning, recording and interpreting data, and analysing and evaluating findings in preparation for their exam.

Each section of the pack includes the following:

- **Teacher's notes** – allows the teacher to plan for the lesson ahead and set the practical in the appropriate context. Hints for technicians are also provided along with suggested time frames and any unusual equipment requests.
- **Sample data** – useful for when an experiment doesn't quite go as planned, or as a basis for a discussion around reproducibility.
- **Pre-lab tasks** – ideal for use as homework or prep work before the practical lesson is undertaken.
- **Student instructions** – a scaffold for the students to use when conducting their practical work, often with prompts to encourage deeper understanding of the procedures they undertake.
- **Comprehension questions** – written following the same style as the part B examination questions. Assesses knowledge of the practical skills developed during the task.
- **Answers** – will speed up marking and allow the opportunity for self- or peer-marking when used by the students.

Please note that although all tasks contain relevant health and safety information you should always consult your head of department or a relevant body before undertaking any practical you are unsure of. It is also recommended you trial all tasks before carrying them out with a class to determine where best they would fit in with your planning.

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

July 2021

Specification Map

Essential Content	Practical Name	BTEC Specification Reference	Skills
D) Enzymes in Action	Enzymes and substrate concentration	D1, D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student choice and justification A thorough method
	Enzymes and the effect of pH	D1, D3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The correct hypothesis and important design Student part of
E) Diffusion of Molecules	Diffusion and concentration gradients	E1, E2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student planning Error bars and also test
	Diffusion and temperature	E1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation and analysis
F) Plants and Their Environment	Photosynthesis and light intensity	F1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student planning
	pH and germination	F1, F2, F3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation Carrying out analysis
G) Energy Content of Fuels	Properties of fuels	G1, G2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis and hypothesis
	Energy from fuels	G1, G3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student choice and justification Use of a conclusion
H) Electrical Circuits	Resistance of a wire	H1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation
	LDR	H2, H3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student planning

Alongside this subject-specific content, the reoccurring themes in sections A (Planning), B (Data collection, processing and analysis/interpretation) and C (Drawing conclusions) present repeatedly throughout each practical.

Students will repeatedly be directed to plan tables which will allow them to record risk assessments and plot all data as graphs to help form a conclusion.

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Experiment 1 – Investigating the effect of enzyme concentration on the initial rate of an enzyme-catalysed reaction

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

This practical allows the students to investigate the effect of changing the concentration of an enzyme on the initial rate of its catalysed reaction. It also gives the opportunity to discuss the importance of controlling variables when comparing factors. Students will be introduced to the benefits of using a colorimeter to measure a colour change.

Prior Learning

Students should already be aware of how to use a colorimeter, including the procedure for calibration. Unit 2; a refresher course may be necessary. An awareness of enzyme structure and function is also required. As part of the data analysis, students will be required to plot graphs and draw tangents.

Suggested Starter Questions

- What would be the benefit of carrying out this experiment using distilled water?
✓ *To act as a control to determine whether the change in colour of solution is due to the enzyme or not.*
- Can you suggest some suitable control variables necessary in this investigation?
✓ *Temperature, pH, concentration of substrate, volume of enzyme solution.*
- What trend do you predict you will see in the initial transmittance vs time graph?
✓ *In all experiments you would expect the rate to decrease as the reaction proceeds, due to a decrease in the amount of substrate available, and, therefore, lower probability of collision.*
- Can you suggest a qualitative way of carrying out this experiment?
✓ *For example, waiting until a previously hidden image underneath the enzyme solution becomes visible. This can lead to an opportunity to discuss the inherent errors in this method.*

Brief Outline of Method

Various concentrations of trypsin solutions are used to break down the casein in a cloudy solution. As the casein is digested, the cloudy solution begins to clear, the rate of which is measured via a colorimeter. The transmittance is monitored over a set period and then the data is used to plot graphs of transmittance vs time. As an extension task, pupils could be asked to consider the changes they would need to make to the procedure in order to investigate the effect of changing substrate concentration on the initial rate of reaction.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus, students will need access to:

- 1 % trypsin solution
- 10 cm³ volumetric flask
- 10 cm³ graduated pipette
- Distilled water
- Colorimeter
- Cuvette
- Casein solution
- 2 cm³ graduated pipette x2
- Stopwatch

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 2 hours

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Health and Safety Considerations

All enzymes have the potential to be allergens. Any spillages should be cleaned up immediately and should be avoided; however, if this occurs the affected area should be washed with water.

Practical Considerations

Students need access to 5 % milk powder solution and trypsin solution stabilised in milk powder solution. The trypsin solution will be diluted by the students to 1 %, 0.8 %, 0.6 %, 0.4 % and 0.2 %

Sample data

Time (s)	Transmittance			
	1.0 %	0.8 %	0.6 %	0.4 %
0	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
30	0.345	0.339	0.223	0.175
60	0.437	0.399	0.321	0.256
90	0.673	0.657	0.536	0.334
120	0.889	0.864	0.678	0.378
150	1.000	1.000	0.839	0.447
180	1.000	1.000	0.921	0.502
210	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.559
240	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.610
270	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.699
300	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.764

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Pre-lab Tasks

1. Copy and complete the following paragraph to explain the structure and function of an enzyme.

An enzyme is a _____. It is a _____ which _____ up biological reactions, allowing us to stay alive by _____ lowering the _____ of the biochemical reactions within our cells. The structure of an enzyme is vital for its function. _____ chains folded together in a specific manner result in the formation of an _____, which is where the catalytic site is located.

2. There are two theories as to how an enzyme and its substrate molecule interact: the lock and key model and the induced fit model. Produce a comic strip which shows these two models and differences between them.
3. Read the 'Student instructions' sheet and write a list of the equipment required for each procedure. Ensure you select the most suitable piece of apparatus for each procedure.
4. Construct a risk assessment which considers all possible risks in this investigation and the control measures you will take to avoid them.
5. In this experiment you will be monitoring the initial rate of the reaction under different conditions of enzyme concentration. Use research to explain why the initial rate of reaction is the most accurate way to determine enzyme concentration.
6. Sketch the general shape of the graph you will expect to obtain for each of the three conditions (there should be three distinct areas). Explain the reason for the changes in the rate of reaction.
7. Annotate your graph from Q6 to explain how you will determine the initial rate of reaction and hence enzyme concentration.

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Student Instructions

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

Before beginning your practical work, you should read the instructions thoroughly and identify the independent and dependent variables. Once done, use this to design a results table which will record your experimental data.

In this experiment you are investigating the hypothesis:

The higher the concentration of enzyme, the faster the initial rate of the enzyme reaction due to the increased probability of a collision between the enzyme and the substrate.

NB The following is an outline for the experiment you should carry out. It does not provide all the detail so ensure you have read it thoroughly before beginning and have a clear idea of the method you will follow.

1. You will be provided with a 1 % solution of trypsin. Decide what concentration you will use.
2. Transfer 2 cm³ of the casein solution into a cuvette and record the initial transmittance using the colorimeter.
3. Add 2 cm³ of the trypsin solution and mix well.
4. Measure the transmittance of the solution at regular intervals for 5 minutes.
5. Use distilled water to rinse out the cuvette.
6. Repeat steps 2–5 with the four other enzyme concentrations.



SAFETY INFORMATION!

All enzymes have the potential to be allergens. Any spillages should be cleaned up immediately and should be avoided; however, if this occurs the affected area should be washed immediately.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

For each concentration of enzyme, plot a graph of transmittance against time. Use the initial rate of reaction; to do this you will need to calculate the tangent at the beginning of the reaction and quote appropriate units.

Once you know the initial rate for each experiment, you should complete a final table showing the initial rate on your x-axis and initial rate on your y-axis.

Evaluation

The following factors could cause a lack of validity in your results:

- fluctuations in temperature
- lack of proof that the enzyme causes the change in colour

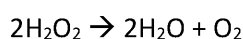
Explain how they could be addressed.

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Comprehension Questions

1. Use information from your graph to describe how the change in concentration affects the initial rate of casein breakdown.
2. Suggest one reason why you needed to thoroughly mix the casein and trypsin.
3. Enzyme activity can also be affected by temperature.
 - (a) Explain how carrying out this experiment at a lower temperature would affect trypsin activity.
 - (b) Explain how carrying out this experiment at increasingly higher temperatures would affect the rate of trypsin activity.
4. Explain two ways you could extend this investigation in order to determine the optimum concentration of trypsin to use to breakdown casein.
5. A student investigated the effect of enzyme concentration on the initial rate of reaction. Catalase speeds up the breakdown of hydrogen peroxide into water and oxygen.



They follow the following method:

- A potato cylinder is added to a tube of hydrogen peroxide
- A bung and delivery tube are immediately inserted into the tube, with the delivery tube under an inverted measuring cylinder, filled with water
- The oxygen gas produced is collected

The experiment is repeated with different sizes of potato cylinders.

Evaluate this method. Highlight any areas where errors could be made, or where the method is lacking detail, and suggest improvements.

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Answer Sheets

Pre-lab Tasks

1. An enzyme is a *biological catalyst*. It is a *protein* molecule which *speeds up* biological reactions. Enzymes work by lowering the *activation energy* of the biochemical processes occurring. The *active site* of an enzyme is vital for its function. An enzyme is made up of *polypeptide* chains forming a specific shape. The *active site* is a small area known as an *active site*, which is where the catalysis occurs.

2. Key features of the comic strip:

- Lock and key theory: an enzyme with a specific active site and substrate match. The substrate should diffuse into the active site and form an enzyme-substrate complex, causing the substrate to break down into the product, leaving an enzyme-substrate complex to diffuse away, leaving behind the enzyme looking identical to the beginning of the reaction.
- Induced fit theory: similar to the lock and key comic strip, except this time the shape of the substrate changes to closely bind to the substrate. After the products diffuse away the enzyme should revert to its original shape.

3. Required equipment:

1 % trypsin solution
10 cm³ volumetric flask
10 cm³ graduated pipette
Distilled water

Required for serial dilution to make the desired concentration.

Colorimeter
Cuvette
Casein solution
2 cm³ graduated pipette x2
Stopwatch

Required for measuring the transmittance of the reaction mixture.

4.

Hazard	Risk	Control Measures
Trypsin Solution	Enzyme solutions are potential allergens	Avoid contact with skin. If contact occurs, wash immediately. Eye protection to be worn.
Glassware	Could break and cause cuts	Ensure a tidy and clean workspace. Any breakages should be reported immediately.
Colorimeter	Wires can cause a trip hazard	Ensure a tidy and clean workspace. Wires should be contained within the workspace.
5. In any enzyme-catalysed reaction, the rate naturally slows down as the reaction proceeds. This is because the amount of substrate available as it is converted into the desired products and, therefore, the number of substrate molecules colliding. Measuring the initial rate of reaction allows us to monitor the reaction under the conditions we desire.

6. 

- Section 1: initially transmittance will increase quickly as there is a high number of substrate molecules to combine with enzymes.
- Section 2: the rate of increase in transmittance begins to slow as the amount of substrate molecules decreases, resulting in a lower probability of a reaction occurring.
- Section 3: eventually the transmittance will plateau as all substrate molecules have been converted into products.

7. The graph should show awareness of drawing a tangent at the beginning of the line. The gradient of this line should then be calculated by dividing the change in the y-axis by the change in the x-axis.

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Student Instructions

Model results table:

Concentration of Trypsin Solution (%)	Transmittance Reading		
	1	2	

Evaluation

Fluctuations in temperature: occur due to changes within the environment. Therefore, the experiment should be carried out using a water bath to maintain a constant temperature.

Lack of proof that the enzyme causes the change in colour: a control could be carried out using 2 cm³ of trypsin solution.

Comprehension Questions

- Any two from:
 - As the concentration of trypsin increases, the initial rate of reaction increases (1)
 - A comment on the proportionality of the relationship (1)
 - A comment referencing any plateauing of results (1)
- To ensure the casein and trypsin solution is evenly distributed (1)
- Initial rate would be lower (1)
 - Fewer enzyme-substrate complexes formed (1)
 - Less kinetic energy (1)
 - To begin with, as temperature increases initial rate increases (1)
 - More enzyme-substrate complexes formed (1)
 - More kinetic energy (1)
 - Mention of optimum temperature (1)
 - Rate decreases due to denaturing of enzymes (1)
- Any two points from below (4 marks total):
 - Carry out more repeats for the concentrations investigated (1); to allow you to spot any anomalies (1)
 - Use intermediate concentrations of trypsin around the suggested optimum value to accurately determine the levelling off point (1)
 - Extend the concentration of trypsin beyond 1 % (1); to extend the range of results and *not suggest a levelling off* (1)
- Any six from:
 - Diameter of potato cylinders not specified (1)
 - Length of cylinders to be investigated not specified (1)
 - Volume of hydrogen peroxide not specified (1)
 - Control temperature not referenced (1)
 - Control pH not referenced (1)
 - No end point to the reaction referenced, e.g. amount of oxygen to be collected (1)
 - No repeats suggested (1)
 - Counting bubbles can cause uncertainty due to speed or size of bubbles; would need a measuring cylinder to determine a volume (1)

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Experiment 2 – Investigating the optimum breakdown of starch by amylase

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

This is a straightforward, well-tested experiment. Students will use buffer solution and amylase at different pHs. From a graph of their results they will determine the optimum pH.

Prior Learning

Students should have been introduced to the process of enzymes denaturing and also be discussing the idea of a null hypothesis and carrying out an unpaired student's t-test. They need to have been introduced to these concepts and given the opportunity to practise.

Suggested Starter Questions

- Based on your prior knowledge, do you have any predictions about what you will find?
 - ✓ *Students may choose to discuss the function of amylase from GCSE Biology, general discussion of enzymes being denatured, anticipated results.*
- How will you decide that all the starch has been broken down?
 - ✓ *Discussion of the colour change involved when using iodine to test for starch. Suggestion of a control to act as a colour comparison.*
- Why are we controlling the reaction at 35° C?
 - ✓ *Students can approach this in two different ways: either by discussing the effect of temperature on the activity of enzymes or by focusing on the fact that 35° C is the normal body temperature, which is where amylase naturally exists.*

Brief Outline of Method

Using buffers to provide different pH environments, students will test samples of starch solution at 10-second intervals to determine when all the starch has been broken down. Iodine solution is added to the starch solution and the colour change from blue-black to yellow is observed. The rate of this enzyme-controlled reaction can then be calculated using $1 \div \text{time}$. Students should use pH buffers or carry out repeats of one pH and then pool class data dependent on the results.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- Water bath set at 35° C
- Amylase solution (1 %)
- Starch solution (1 %)
- Iodine solution
- Stopwatch
- Spotting tile x2
- Dropping pipette
- 5 cm³ syringes
- pH buffers (to cover a range of pHs)

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 1 hour

Health and Safety Considerations

- All enzymes have the potential to be allergens. Any spillages should be cleaned up immediately. Skin contact should be avoided; however, if this occurs the affected area should be washed with water.
- pH buffer solutions risk varies based on pH and manufacturer.
- Iodine solution is low risk once made up.

Practical Considerations

It is advisable to test the speed of the reaction with the volumes and concentrations in advance. Ideally, at pH 6 the reaction should be complete in 60 seconds. Enzyme activity of any previously made stock should also be checked if it is intended to be used.

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Sample Data

pH	Time taken for starch to be fully	
	1	2
4	240	240
5	120	180
6	60	70
7	140	140
8	270	270

NB An anomaly has been included at pH 5, trial 2

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Pre-lab Tasks

1. Define the following key terms:
 - (a) Enzyme
 - (b) Substrate
 - (c) Active site
 - (d) Denatured
 - (e) Optimum
2.
 - (a) What is meant by a 'hypothesis'?
 - (b) Read the 'Student instructions' sheet for this experiment and suggest a hypothesis.
 - (c) What would be the null hypothesis for this investigation?
3. This investigation requires small volumes of liquids to be measured out. Explain what you would use to measure out 1 cm³ pH buffer and why this is better than a measuring cylinder.
4. State two control variables in this experiment, describe how they will be controlled and why they need to be controlled.
5. Copy and complete the following table to construct a risk assessment which identifies the hazards of this investigation and details the precautions you will take to avoid them.

Hazard	Risk	Precautions

6. Design an appropriate results table to record the data required to investigate the effect of pH on the rate of starch breakdown.

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Student Instructions

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

NB The following is an outline for the experiment you should carry out. It does not contain all the detail, so ensure you have read it thoroughly before beginning and have a clear method you will follow.

- Collect the following equipment:
 - ☒ Water bath set at 35 °C
 - ☒ Amylase solution
 - ☒ Starch solution
 - ☒ Iodine solution
 - ☒ Stopwatch
 - ☒ Spotting tile x2
 - ☒ Dropping pipette
 - ☒ 5 cm³ syringes
 - ☒ pH buffers
 - ☒ Test tubes
- Place the starch and amylase solutions into the water bath and allow to acclimatise.
- Use the dropping pipette to place one drop of iodine into each well of the spotting tile.
- Use separate syringes to place 2 cm³ amylase and 1 cm³ of pH buffer into a test tube and place in the water bath.
- Simultaneously add 2 cm³ starch to the amylase/buffer solution and start the stopwatch. The mixture is combined thoroughly.
- After 10 seconds remove one drop of mixture and test it with the iodine solution. Repeat this every 10 seconds until the end point is reached.
- Carry out any required repeats to ensure a full spread of data.



SAFETY INFORMATION!

- All enzymes have the potential to be allergens. Any spillages should be cleared immediately. Skin contact should be avoided; however, if this occurs the affected area should be washed with water.
- pH buffer solutions risk varies based on pH and manufacturer.
- Iodine solution is low risk once made up.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

For each pH tested you should calculate a mean and then use this to determine the rate of reaction calculated as $1 \div \text{time taken}$. This data can then be plotted on a graph of rate vs pH.

Use your graph to estimate the optimum pH of amylase and explain your answer.

Evaluation

Suggest stages in your method which may have introduced error into your investigation and how they potentially be improved in future repeats.

Explain how a more precise value for the optimum pH for amylase activity could be determined.

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Comprehension Questions

- Use information from your graph to describe how the changes in pH affect the rate of reaction.
- State the independent and dependent variables in this experiment.
- A second student carried out a similar investigation looking at the action of the enzyme at pH3 and pH8.
 - State a null hypothesis for this investigation.
 - The table below shows the time taken for the enzyme activity to be completed at each pH.

Repeat number	Time taken for reaction to be completed (s)	
	pH 3	pH 8
1	97.0	17.0
2	102.0	14.0
3	111.0	19.0
4	132.0	15.0
5	95.0	16.0
6	119.0	20.0
7	115.0	15.0
8	134.0	17.0
9	107.0	12.0
10	126.0	13.0
Mean time taken (s)	113.8	16.0
Standard deviation (s)	13.93	2.60

Use the unpaired t-test to calculate the value of t for this student's investigation.

$$t = \frac{\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2}{\sqrt{\frac{s_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{s_2^2}{n_2}}}$$

- Use $(n_1 + n_2) - 2$ to calculate the degrees of freedom for this investigation.
- Use the t table below to give the critical value of t at the $p = 0.05$ level.

P = 0.05		
Degrees of freedom	15	2.13
	16	2.12
	17	2.11
	18	2.10
	19	2.09
	20	2.09
	21	2.08
	22	2.07

- State, with reasons, whether you would accept or reject the null hypothesis.

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Answer Sheet

Pre-lab Tasks

- Enzyme – a biological catalyst; a protein molecule which speeds up biological processes
 - Substrate – the substance which is acted on (broken down or built up) by the enzyme
 - Active site – the area of the enzyme where the substrate binds and catalysis occurs
 - Denatured – name given to the process of an enzyme losing the shape of its active site
 - Optimum – a term to describe the conditions which will provide the fastest rate of reaction
- A hypothesis is a statement made about the predicted outcome of an investigation based on the statement based on scientific facts.
 - The activity of amylase will vary at different pHs. Around pH 6 should give the fastest rate of reaction as this is the pH of the mouth, where amylase is naturally found. Outside of the optimum pH the rate of reaction will decrease as the shape of the active site is affected and the enzyme begins to be denatured.
 - There is no **significant** difference between the activity of amylase at any pH.
- The most suitable piece of equipment to measure out 1 cm³ of buffer solution would be a 1 cm³ pipette. This is due to the pipette being carefully calibrated making it more accurate. Using a 1 cm³ pipette instead of a 2 cm³ pipette will also reduce the percentage error.
- Temperature – a higher temperature can cause increased enzyme activity or denaturation. A colder temperature can cause the enzyme to work more slowly – a water bath will ensure the temperature is maintained.
Amount of enzyme – this would change the amount of enzyme molecules in the mixture. In each experiment in this investigation will use a measured portion of enzyme solution.

Hazard	Risk	Control
Amylase solution	Enzyme solutions are potential allergens	Avoid contact with skin. If affected area should be washed immediately.
Iodine solution	Low hazard – can be harmful	Goggles should be worn. Spillages should be cleaned up immediately.
Buffer solutions	Low hazard – can be harmful	Goggles should be worn. Spillages should be cleaned up immediately.
Glassware	Could break and cause cuts	Ensure a tidy and safe working environment. Breakages should be reported.

pH	Time taken for starch to be fully broken down (s)		
	1	2	3
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

Evaluation

The main errors in this investigation are the thorough mixing of the enzyme/substrate/buffer, the nature of the reaction vessel and ensuring the aliquots are taken out at exactly 10 seconds or underestimated.

A more precise value for the optimum pH can be determined by testing the pH in smaller intervals suggested by the investigation.

Comprehension Questions

- Any two from:
 - As the pH increases the rate of reaction increases. (1)
 - A comment on the peak value of the graph (1)
 - After the optimum value as pH increases the rate of reaction decreases (1)
- Independent – pH of solution (1)
Dependent – time taken for starch to be fully broken down (1)
- There is no **significant** difference (1) between the action of lipase at pH 3 or pH 8.
 - Difference in mean = $160.0 - 113.8$ (1) = 46.2 (1)
Standard error = $13.93^2/10 + 26.00^2/10$ (1) = 87 (1)
Square root = 9.33 (1)
 $t = 4.956$ (1)
 - $(10 + 10) - 2$ (1) = 18 (1)
 - 2.10 (1)
 - As the t test value is above the critical value (1) there is significant difference between pH 3 and pH 8 (1), and, therefore, the null hypothesis should be rejected (1)

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Experiment 3 – Investigating the effect of concentration on the rate of diffusion

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

In this practical, students are given a design brief and then asked to develop their hypothesis and method to investigate this. Students will be looking at the effect of concentration on the rate of diffusion in agar jelly.

Prior Learning

An awareness of the process of diffusion is useful for this experiment. Students will have experience they have had so far in planning and designing methods. As part of this experiment, students will be expected to calculate standard deviation and apply this as error bars. This will be discussed and practised during teaching time.

Suggested Starter Questions

- In pairs, you have 2 minutes to tell each other everything you know about diffusion.
- Based on your prior knowledge, what are you expecting to observe during the experiment?
 - ✓ *The higher the concentration of the acid the further the acid should diffuse at a faster rate of diffusion.*

Brief Outline of Method

Students will use alkaline agar jelly stained with phenolphthalein to monitor the rate of diffusion of acid. They will use a cork borer to form wells to fill with acid and then measure the distance by this acid in a set time.

The pre-lab tasks given for this task require students to plan a method for this investigation with guidance. A student instruction sheet has been provided that could help support the method as described in the pre-lab tasks or could be used for the class to follow their own methods which are not feasible to conduct in the lab environment.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- Cork borer
- Dropping pipettes
- Ruler
- Petri dishes of agar jelly stained with phenolphthalein
- HCl:
 - 0.1 mol dm⁻³
 - 0.5 mol dm⁻³
 - 1 mol dm⁻³
- Stopwatch

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 1 hour

Health and Safety Considerations

The hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide used in this practical are low enough concentration to be low hazard. Eye protection should be worn and any spillages should be cleaned up immediately.

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Practical Considerations

It would be advisable to try this experiment beforehand to have an idea of the time taken for the diffusion of the weakest acid while ensuring the strongest acid does not diffuse out of the Petri dish.

The agar jelly should be made up with 0.01 mol dm^{-3} sodium hydroxide, coloured with phenolphthalein and left to set in Petri dishes.

Sample Data

Concentration of hydrochloric acid (mol dm^{-3})	Distance travelled by hydrochloric acid (cm)	
	1	2
0.1	2	3
0.5	7	6
1.0	15	13

NB An anomaly has been included at 1.0 mol dm^{-3} , trial 3

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Pre-lab Tasks

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- We will place acidic solutions into wells made in agar jelly, containing an alkali, clear in acid).
- As the acid diffuses into the jelly, the jelly will turn clear. We will use different concentrations of acid and measure how far they have diffused after a set amount of time.

You will be provided with the following equipment:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petri dishes of agar jelly stained with phenolphthalein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cork borer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HCl: 0.1 mol dm ⁻³ , 0.5 mol dm ⁻³ and 1 mol dm ⁻³	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dropper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stopwatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruler

Produce a fully detailed method explaining how you will carry out an investigation to see how a concentration gradient affects the rate of diffusion.

You should include the following:

- A hypothesis which states what you believe the outcome of this investigation will be, to support your reasoning
- A description of the purpose of each piece of equipment
- A logical list of instructions, highlighting any stages you believe will ensure accurate results
- Identification of the variables in your investigation: independent/dependent/control/measure these, and are there any variables you believe will be difficult to control?
- What range and interval will you select for your independent variable, and why?
- How will you record your data? Draft a version of the results table you can use to record your experimental observations.
- What are the inherent risks within this experiment, and how will you minimise them?

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Student Instructions

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

The following method can be used to aid you in the planning process. Consider the instructions to ensure that the practical you design shows good scientific practice.

1. Collect the following equipment:

- ☒ 3 Petri dishes of agar jelly stained with phenolphthalein
- ☒ HCl: 0.1 mol dm^{-3} , 0.5 mol dm^{-3} and 1 mol dm^{-3}
- ☒ Stopwatch
- ☒ Cork borer
- ☒ 3 dropping pipettes
- ☒ Ruler

2. In each Petri dish make three holes in the agar jelly.

Which piece of equipment will you use to do this? How will you space out the three holes in each dish when you have only three concentrations in total to test?

3. Use the dropping pipette to carefully add enough 0.1 mol dm^{-3} HCl to fill the holes.

How will you ensure this is consistent between all three wells? Why is it important to be as consistent as possible?

4. After a defined amount of time, stop the reaction and use a ruler to measure the diameter of the well of acid.

How will you decide how long to allow the acid to diffuse for? How could you ensure this is consistent?

5. Repeat for the other two acid concentrations.



SAFETY INFORMATION!

The hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide used in this practical are low hazard. Eye protection should be worn and any spillages should be cleaned up immediately.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

For each concentration of acid calculate a mean and plot a graph of concentration of acid against diameter of diffusion.

Evaluation

For each concentration calculate the standard deviation for the set of results and plot this to the points on your graph. Use this information to decide which concentration of acid is most suitable.

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Comprehension Questions

1. Use your graph to describe the relationship between concentration of acid and rate of diffusion.
2. When investigating the effect of concentration of the acid on average rate of diffusion, control the temperature. Explain why.
3. Calculate the percentage error associated with the average distance the agar moved.
4. State and explain the biggest factor responsible for inaccuracy in your experiment. How could you overcome this?
5. Explain, using the concepts of repeatability and reproducibility, how you could test your results.
6. Other than using a larger range of acid concentrations, explain two ways you could investigate further.

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Answer Sheet

Pre-lab Tasks

Hypothesis: as the concentration of the acid increases you would expect the rate of diffusion to be higher due to the larger concentration gradient which would be created.

See 'Student instructions' sheet for suggested method

Concentration of hydrochloric acid (mol dm ⁻³)	Distance travelled by hydrochloric acid (mm)		
	1	2	3

Hazard	Risk	Control Measures
Phenolphthalein cubes	Low hazard – can be harmful	Goggles should be worn
Hydrochloric acid	Low hazard – can be harmful	Goggles should be worn cleaned up immediately
Sodium hydroxide	Low hazard – can be harmful	Goggles should be worn cleaned up immediately
Glassware	Could break and cause cuts	Ensure a tidy and organised workspace Any breakages should be reported

Comprehension Questions

- As concentration increases the rate of diffusion increases (1)
Comment on proportionality (1)
- Temperature can also affect the rate of diffusion (1) the higher the temperature the faster they diffuse (1) and so the faster they diffuse (1)
- Identification of absolute error being 0.5 mm (1)
Absolute error ÷ mean reading at 0.5 mol dm⁻³ (1)
×100 (1)
- Ensuring all wells diffuse for the same amount of time (1) as it is very difficult to add time and measure all three at the same time (1) this can be overcome by using three wells (1)
Or any other sensible suggestion
- Repeatability: repeat the experiment (1) while using the same equipment (1)
Reproducibility: other students should carry out the experiment (1) and compare results (1)
- Any two points from (4 marks total):
 - Use a different type of acid (1), e.g. sulfuric acid (1)
 - Change the substrate diffusion occurs in (1), e.g. gelatine instead of agar (1)
 - Change the surface area of the well (1) use a different-sized cork borer (1)
 - Investigate different temperatures (1) use a water bath to heat the acid (1)

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Experiment 4 – Investigating the effect of temperature on the rate of diffusion

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

In this investigation, students will be required to follow instructions given in a skills pack and investigate the effect of temperature on the rate of diffusion. They will then be asked to consider the effect of temperature on the rate of diffusion and a similar one in a detailed set of evaluation comprehension questions.

Prior Learning

An awareness of the factors affecting diffusion will be necessary for this investigation. The practical work involves comprehensive testing of students' evaluative skills, and, a percentage error will be required.

Suggested Starter Questions

- Why can we only investigate moderate temperatures in this investigation and why?
✓ *Too cold and diffusion would be too slow, and the agar could potentially solidify, and the acid would be too hazardous to handle, or the agar could begin to melt.*
- Can you suggest some suitable control variables necessary in this investigation?
✓ *Surface area of agar, concentration of acid, volume of acid, type of acid.*
- What do you believe to be the biggest risk in this experiment, and how will you manage it?
✓ *Irritation to skin or eyes from the hot acid – wear gloves and goggles*

Brief Outline of Method

In this practical, students will be using water baths to change the temperature of agar cylinders. The time taken for neutralise sodium-hydroxide-infused agar cylinders which have been stained with phenolphthalein. The time taken for complete colour change to occur should be recorded and then used to calculate the rate of diffusion at each temperature.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- Ice
- Water bath
- Agar cylinders
- White tile
- 1 mol dm⁻³ hydrochloric acid
- Thermometer
- Stopwatch

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 1.5 hours

Health and Safety Considerations

The hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide used in this practical are low enough concentration to be considered low hazard. Eye protection should be worn and any spillages should be cleaned up immediately.

Practical Considerations

The agar cylinders required for this practical should be made using a recipe of 10 g agar powder and 5 cm³ phenolphthalein. They should be 2 cm in length and 1 cm in diameter. If they are made the night before they should be stored in the fridge and then removed to room temperature before they are required.

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Sample Data

Temperature of acid (°C)	Time taken for colour change	
	1	2
10	401	396
20	312	304
30	210	213
40	124	121
50	24	26

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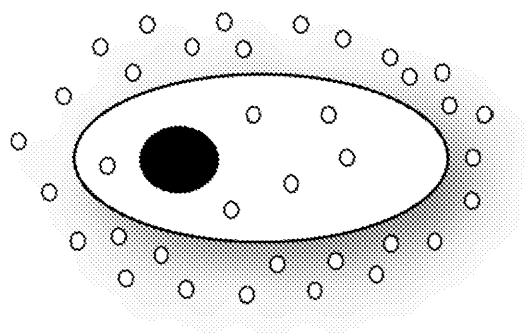
Pre-lab Tasks

- Copy and complete the following sentences:

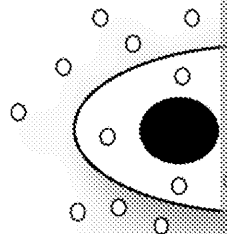
Diffusion is the movement of a substance from an _____
 an _____. It can only occur in the _____
 _____ state, as this is when the particles are able to move
 from place to place.

- Take a look at the following diagrams. State in which direction (into or out of) the cell the particles would be.

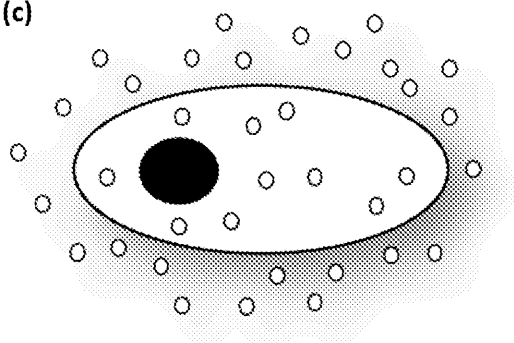
(a)



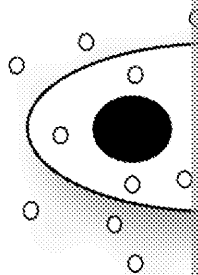
(b)



(c)

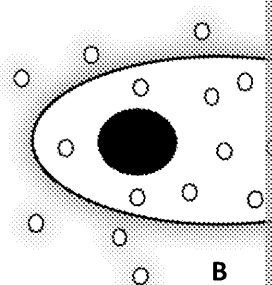
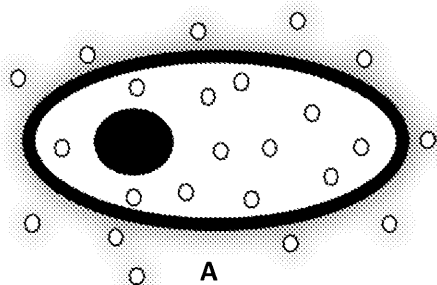


(d)

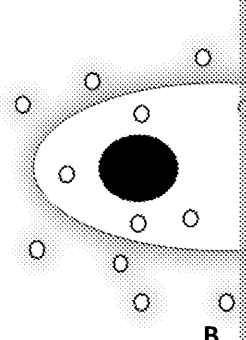
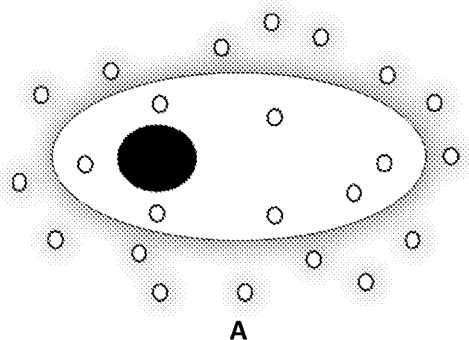


- State the four factors which can affect the rate of diffusion of a molecule of a substance.
- In each of the following diagrams state which would have the fastest rate of diffusion.

(a)



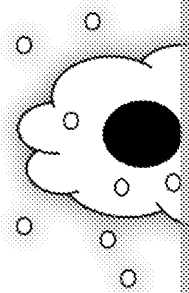
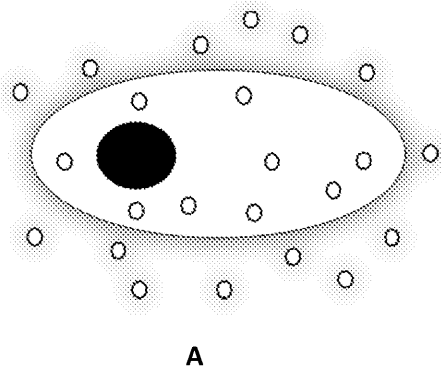
(b)



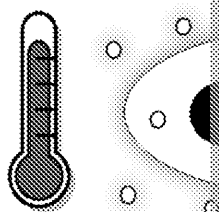
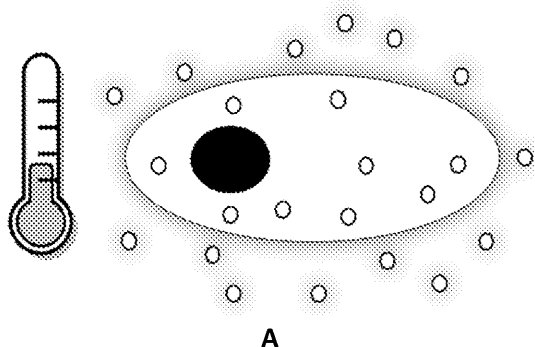
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(c)



(d)



5. Read the student information sheet and identify the independent and dependent variables in the investigation. Use this information to design a results table to be used to record the results of the investigation.
6. Construct a risk assessment which considers all possible risks in this investigation and the measures you will take to avoid them.

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Student Instructions

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

In this experiment you are investigating the hypothesis:

'The higher the temperature, the faster the rate of diffusion. This is due to the molecules resulting in faster movement.'

NB The following is an outline for the experiment you should carry out. It does not contain detail so ensure you have read it thoroughly before beginning and have a clear method you will follow.

- Collect the following equipment:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 mol dm ⁻³ hydrochloric acid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clamp and clamp stand
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small beaker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ice
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thermometer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water bath
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boiling tube	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measuring cylinder
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spatula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agar cylinders
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stopwatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White tile
- Identify five suitable temperatures of acid to investigate.
- Place 10 cm³ of HCl, which is at the first temperature you have chosen to investigate, in the boiling tube.
- Transfer an agar cylinder into the boiling tube and immediately start the stopwatch.
- Use the white tile to help you decide an end point and when to stop timing.
- Repeat the experiment until you have three results for each temperature you have chosen to investigate.



SAFETY INFORMATION!

The hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide used in this practical are low energy and are considered low hazard. Eye protection should be worn and any spillages should be cleaned up immediately.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

For each temperature of acid calculate a mean and then plot a graph of temperature against average rate of diffusion (average rate is calculated using the following equation).

$$\text{average rate of diffusion (s}^{-1}\text{)} = \frac{1}{\text{average time (s)}}$$

Use your graph to describe the relationship between temperature and rate of diffusion. Does the data support the hypothesis?

Evaluation

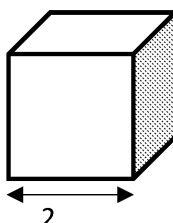
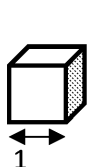
- Identify any anomalies in your data and suggest what may have caused them.
- State the name of the piece of equipment used to measure volumes in this experiment and calculate the percentage error associated with this measuring equipment. Identify and justify a device which would have improved accuracy when measuring volumes in this experiment.

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Comprehension Questions

1. A student carried out a similar experiment to this; however, instead of changing the concentration of the acid, they used agar cubes of different sizes. Write a hypothesis for this experiment.
2. The image below shows some of the blocks the student used. Calculate the surface-area-to-volume ratio for each block.



3. Here is the method the student followed for their investigation:

- Collect a beaker of acid
- Add the first cube to the acid
- Start the stopwatch
- Stop the stopwatch when all the colour has gone
- Repeat for the other cubes

Evaluate this method and the equipment used.

4. The table below shows the data obtained by the student. Identify the anomaly and what may have caused it.

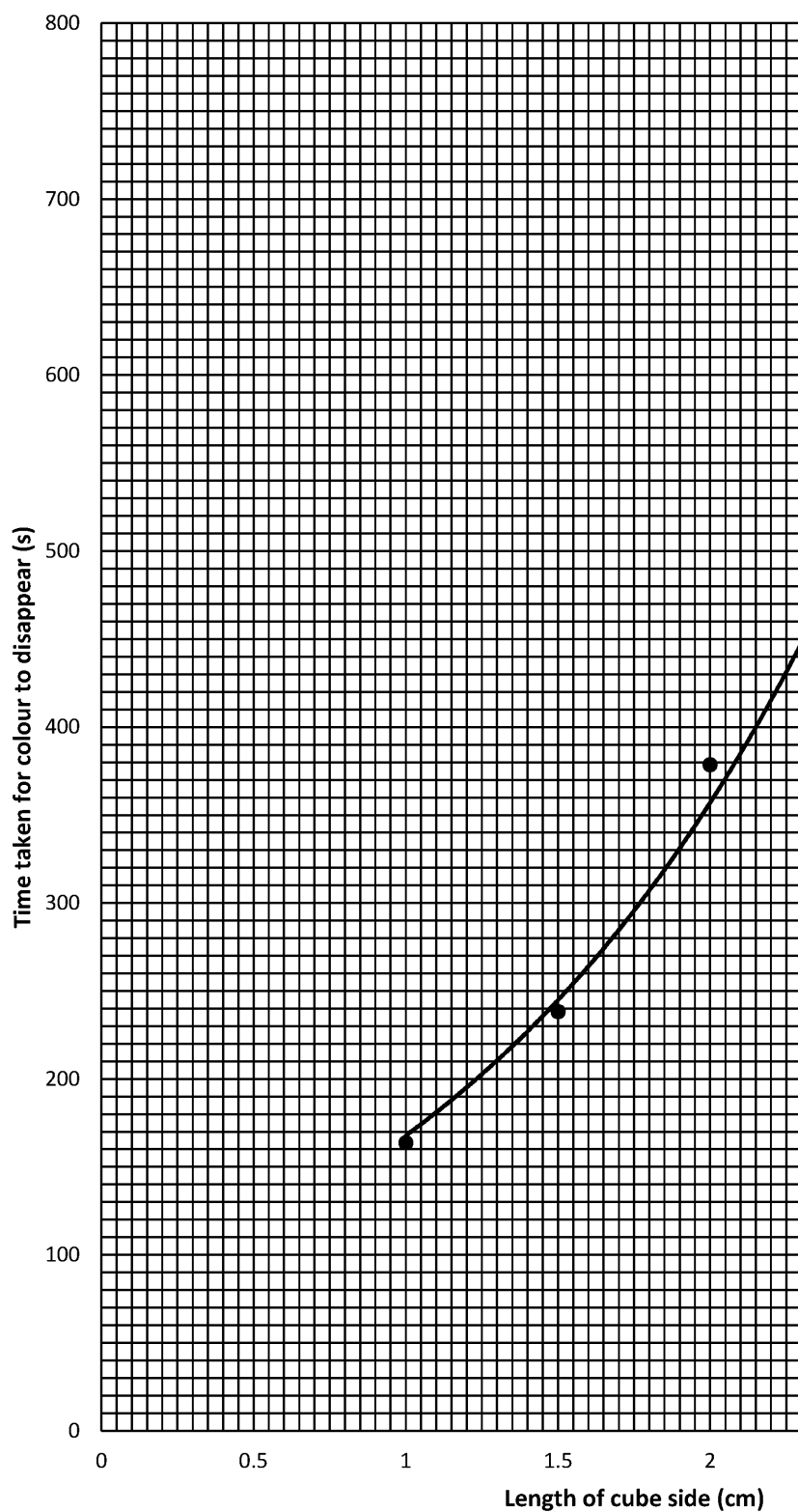
Length of side (cm)	Time taken for colour to disappear (s)			
	1	2	3	4
1	172.54	150.65	168.62	
1.5	234.00	230.87	250.34	
2	383.84	433.65	373.54	
2.5	539.65	560.76	553.12	
3	726.03	696.83	711.14	

5. Calculate the mean time taken for colour to disappear for the results at cube length 2.
6. Calculate the standard deviation for the results recorded for the cube length 2.
7. The student plotted a graph from this data (see appendix 1). Use the standard error bars to this graph.
8. Explain which cube length gave the least reliable set of data.

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Appendix 1



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Answer Sheets

Pre-lab Tasks

- Diffusion is the movement of a substance from an **AREA OF HIGH CONCENTRATION** to an **AREA OF LOW CONCENTRATION**. It can only occur in the **LIQUID** and **GASEOUS** states, as this is where particles move randomly and from place to place.
- into the cell
 - into the cell
 - into the cell
 - out of the cell
- Temperature, surface area, concentration gradient, size of diffusion pathway
- B – it has the shorter diffusion pathway
 - A – there is a greater difference in concentration (higher concentration gradient)
 - B – there is a larger surface area
 - B – the temperature is higher
- Independent variable – temperature of acid (°C)
Dependent variable – time taken for colour change to occur (s)

Temperature of acid (°C)	Time taken for colour change to occur (s)		
	1	2	3

6.

Hazard	Risk	Control
Warm hydrochloric acid	Irritation to skin and eyes	Eye protection should be worn. Affected area should be washed immediately.
Agar cylinders	Irritation to skin and eyes	Eye protection should be worn. Cylinders should be handled with care.
Glassware	Could break and cause cuts	Ensure a tidy and safe working area. Any breakages should be cleaned up immediately.
Water bath	Wires can cause a trip hazard	Ensure a tidy and safe working area. Wires should be contained within the bath.

Data Analysis

References to any relationship should state the link between the two variables and then the shape of curve.

Evaluation

- Use the student's own results to identify anomalies
- Measuring cylinder:
Identification of absolute error being half the smallest division
Absolute error ÷ 10
×100
Pipette or burette as it has a smaller scale, resulting in a lower percentage error as less volume is to be transferred.

Comprehension Questions

- The larger the surface-area-to-volume ratio of the cube, the faster the rate of diffusion. The smaller the cube, the more contact points the acid can make with the agar block (1).
-

	Surface area (cm ²)	Volume (cm ³)
Block 1	(1 × 1) × 6 = 6	1 × 1 × 1 = 1
Block 2	(2 × 2) × 6 = 24	2 × 2 × 2 = 8
Block 3	(3 × 3) × 6 = 54	3 × 3 × 3 = 27

1 mark for each completely correct column (3)

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3. Any four from:
 - Volume of acid not specified (1)
 - Control temperature not referenced (1)
 - Specific type of acid not referenced (1)
 - No repeats suggested (1)
 - Adding the cube to the acid instead of the other way around can cause the cubed glassware resulting in timing problems (1)
 - No indication of use of a white tile to ensure colour change is completely finished (1)
4. Anomaly = trial 2 for length of side 2 cm (1)
Diffusion took longer than expected (1)
Any linked pair from (2 marks):
 - Acid colder than normal (1) due to a change in room temperature (1)
 - Incorrect amount of acid added to the boiling tube (1) less surface area of the cube
 - Acid was a weaker concentration (1) water left in boiling tube when rinsing in between
5. 551.18 (1)
6. 10.46 (1)
7. Use the standard deviations given on the table and the scale on the graph to check if 4/5 error bars correctly drawn (2) OR 2/3 error bars correctly drawn (1)
8. Length of side = 2 cm (1)
Smallest standard deviation (1)

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Experiment 5 – Investigating photosynthesis intensity

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

This is a straightforward, well-tested experiment. Students investigate the rate of counting bubbles at different intensities of light. This practical will allow students which are designed to ensure results are as accurate as possible.

Prior Learning

Students should have covered the theory of photosynthesis and have some awareness of limiting factors.

Suggested Starter Questions

- What is the word and balanced chemical equation for the process of photosynthesis?
✓ *Carbon dioxide + water → glucose + oxygen; $6\text{CO}_2 + 6\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6 + 6\text{O}_2$*
- How can the rate of photosynthesis be monitored in a plant using the products?
✓ *Discussion of collecting the gas given off. Could discuss the difference between collecting gas and the benefits of each method.*
- What are the control variables in this experiment and how can they be controlled?
✓ *Temperature, carbon dioxide concentration. This can then lead into a discussion of factors and their effect on photosynthesis, possibly the graphs linked with this.*

Brief Outline of Method

Students will use a light source at different distances from a sample of elodea and count the bubbles produced over a defined time period. A large beaker of water should be used. Pondweed should be left to acclimatise for 5 minutes at each light intensity. Once the experiment is complete, students should convert the distances of light into light intensity using $1/\text{distance}^2$ before plotting.

The pre-lab tasks given for this task require students to plan a method for this investigation with teacher guidance. A student instruction sheet has been provided that could help support the chosen method as described in the pre-lab tasks or could be used for the class to follow up on methods which are not feasible to conduct in the lab environment.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- Freshly cut 10 cm piece of pondweed (Elodea)
- Light source
- Stopwatch
- 0.2 % solution of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution
- Glass rod

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 1 hour

Health and Safety Considerations

- All chemicals used in this investigation are considered low risk
- Care should be taken with water and electrical power supply

Practical Considerations

The elodea in this experiment should be kept in a well-lit environment for 2–3 hours before undertaking the practical work. Low-energy light bulbs should not be used for this experiment as they do not give off enough energy for measurable photosynthesis to occur.

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Sample data

Distance of lamp from pondweed (cm)	Number of bubbles produced	
	1	2
10	52	54
30	47	49
50	34	36
70	26	22
90	14	12

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Pre-lab Tasks

Read the outline of the method for the practical on the student instructions sheet. Use this outline to produce a full plan to investigate the effect of light intensity on the rate of photosynthesis.

You should include the following:

- (a) A hypothesis which states what you believe the outcome of this investigation will be, and the reasoning to support your reasoning
- (b) A fully detailed equipment list and description of the purpose of each piece of equipment
- (c) A logical list of instructions, highlighting any stages you believe will ensure a fair test
- (d) Identification of the variables in your investigation: independent/dependent variables, how you will control/control/measure these, and are there any variables you believe will be difficult to control?
- (e) What range and interval will you select for your independent variable, and why?
- (f) How will you record your data? Draft a version of the results table you can use to record your experimental observations.
- (g) What are the inherent risks within this experiment, and how will you minimise them?
- (h) How will you analyse the data once collection is complete?

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Student Instructions

The following method can be used to aid you in the planning process. Consider stage of the instructions to ensure that the practical you design shows good science.

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

1. Set up a boiling tube in a test tube rack 10 cm away from a light source. Place the boiling tube and the light source.

What is the purpose of the beaker of water?

2. Put sodium hydrogencarbonate solution into the boiling tube.

How much sodium hydrogencarbonate will you use each time? Why have you chosen this amount?

3. Put the pondweed into the boiling tube with the cut end pointing upwards.

4. Turn off all external light sources, leave the pondweed for a little while and count the bubbles produced during photosynthesis.

How long will you leave the pondweed for before counting the bubbles? Why have you chosen this time? How long will you count the bubbles for?

5. Move the pondweed further away from the light source and repeat step 4.

How much further away will you move the lamp? Why have you chosen this distance?

6. Keep moving the pondweed further away and collecting data until you have collected enough data to draw a graph.

What will a full set of results look like? How many repeats? How many different distances?



SAFETY INFORMATION!

- All chemicals used in this investigation are considered low risk
- Care should be taken with water and electrical power supply

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

Convert each distance into a light intensity. Light intensity is proportional to $1/d^2$. Calculate an average number of bubbles produced and then present this information on a graph.

Use your graph to describe the relationship between light intensity and the rate of photosynthesis. Does your graph support your hypothesis?

Evaluation

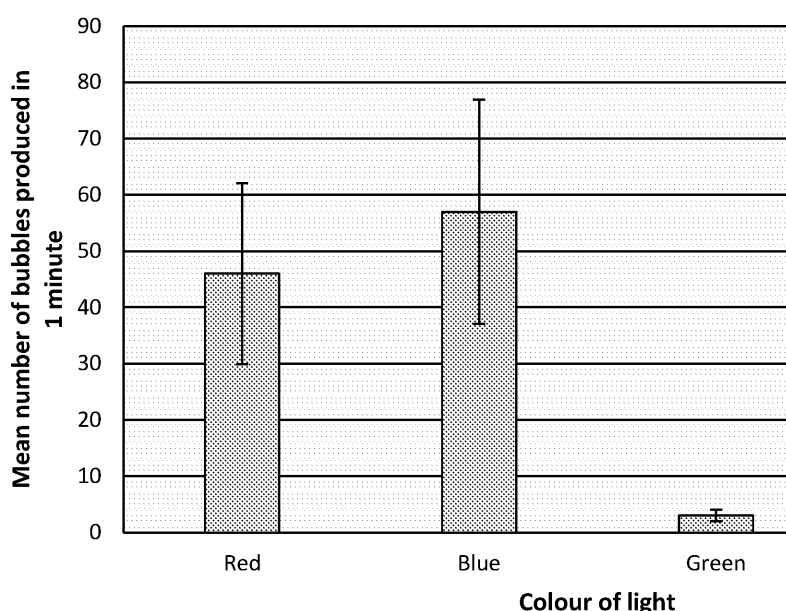
Identify the two parts of the method most responsible for ensuring accurate results. Suggest how you could remove potential errors.

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Comprehension Questions

- The greater the light intensity, the greater the cost to supply it. Explain, using your knowledge of photosynthesis, what light intensity should be used in a greenhouse by a gardener to give the business, and why.
- In this investigation you used a heat sink to control the temperature at which the experiment was carried out. Explain what the effect on photosynthesis would have been if
 - the temperature was raised too high
 - the temperature was dropped too low
- Calculate the percentage error involved in measuring distance when carrying out an experiment.
- Explain how you can use repeatability and reproducibility to test the reliability of your results.
- Explain two ways you could extend your investigation.
- A student carried out a similar experiment to yours except instead of changing the intensity of light, they changed the wavelength, and, therefore, the colour, of light. Their results are shown in the graph below.



- Explain, using the graph, whether there is a significant difference between the mean number of bubbles produced in 1 minute for each colour of light.
 - Use the data on the graph to explain which set of results was the least reliable.
- Here is a small selection of the data the student obtained during their practical investigation.

Colour of light	Number of bubbles produced	
	1	2
Red	47	44
Blue	65	56

- Calculate the mean for the set of results for red light.
- Explain which result is an anomaly.
- Explain how you would deal with this anomaly to ensure accurate results.

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Answer Sheet

Pre-lab Tasks

- Hypothesis: as the light source is moved further away from the plant you would expect the rate of photosynthesis to decrease. This is because light is a limiting factor in photosynthesis and is required for the process to occur.
- Independent variable: distance of light from plant (cm)
- Dependent variable: number of bubbles given off in designated time period
- Control variables: temperature (controlled by using a low-power bulb and placing a beaker of water over the lamp), type of plant (same specimen used each time)

See 'Student instructions' sheet for suggested method

Distance of lamp from pondweed (cm)	Number of bubbles produced in 1 minute		
	1	2	3

Hazard	Risk	Control Measure
Light source	Burns from light bulb heating after extended use	Turn off the light between trials and keep the lamp on the plastic mat
Electrical wires	Interaction with water could cause electrical faults	Ensure any spillages are wiped up immediately. Keep the lamp well away from the water
Glassware	Can smash and cause cuts	Keep your workspace clear of equipment and materials

Evaluation

1. Allowing the plant to acclimatise for 5 minutes at each new light intensity – change in rate of photosynthesis will not be instantaneous and this allows the new rate to be well established before any measurements are taken.
2. Using a beaker of water as a heat sink – the enzymes that carry out photosynthesis are sensitive to temperature. As the light source moves closer to the pondweed the heat energy given off by the lamp increases. The heat sink removes this issue.

Comprehension Questions

1. Selection of light intensity when levelling off of rate first begins OR if no levelling off occurs, the fastest production of bubbles (1). Explanation should link yield of plants and cost of light (1).
2. (a) Either: photosynthesis would increase (1) as the enzymes would have more kinetic energy or photosynthesis would stop (1) as the enzymes become denatured (1)
(b) Photosynthesis would decrease (1) as the enzymes would have less kinetic energy
3. Error = $0.05 \div 10 = 0.005 \times 100 = 0.5\%$ (1)
4. Repeatability: repeat the experiment (1) while using the same equipment (1)
Reproducibility: other students should carry out the experiment (1) and compare results (1)
5. Any two points from (4 marks total):
 - Use a different type of plant (1), e.g. cabomba (1)
 - Change the wavelength of the light (1) use filters over the lamp (1)
 - Change the concentration of carbon dioxide in the water (1) add sodium hydroxide (1)
 - Investigate different temperatures (1) use a water bath to heat the acid (1)
6. (a) There is not a significant difference between red and blue light (1) as the error bars overlap (1). There is a significant difference for green and yellow light with every other colour of light (1) as they do not overlap (1)
(b) Blue light (1) it has the largest error bar (1)
7. (a) $47 + 44 + 46 = 137 \div 3 = 46$ (1)
(b) Blue light, trial 3 (1) as it is very different from the other repeats (1)
(c) Repeat the trial (1) calculate an average but discount the anomaly (1)

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Experiment 6 – Investigating the effect of pH on germination and growth

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

This investigation has frequently appeared in some form in the Unit 3 exam, as a task to carry out and in the form of planning an unknown task and evaluation of a study.

Prior Learning

While the majority of this task is very straightforward, students will need to be familiar with percentage calculation in order to analyse data.

Suggested Starter Questions

- What do you feel the main risks are in this investigation and how will you prevent them?
 - ✓ *The different solutions with varying pHs. Care to be taken with solutions being poured up immediately. Eye protection to be worn throughout.*
- What are you expecting to record in this investigation, and how will you do it?
 - ✓ *Discussion of how the student will quantify the effect of pH on growth by measuring the height the seedling grows to. Could lead into a discussion of potential problems – for example, measuring for leaf formation rather than stem growth – and as such suggest other methods to note regarding their seedlings.*
- When studying plants in situ you can use quadrats randomly placed or along a transect. What are the differences in each method?
 - ✓ *A randomly placed quadrat should have its location determined using a random number generator to avoid an unconscious bias, whereas a transect would use predefined distances.*
 - ✓ *Random sampling is for use in areas where the conditions remain fairly uniform, whereas sampling along a transect will produce data allowing you to investigate changes such as distance from the sea or from a path.*
- Other than soil pH, what factors can affect plant growth and distribution?
 - ✓ *Trampling, sunlight intensity, rainfall, competition*

Brief Outline of Method

Students will grow batches of mustard seeds in varying pH environments. Once there is a reasonable growth, students will measure their heights in order to obtain an idea of the effect of pH on growth.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- White mustard seeds
- Petri dishes
- Cotton wool
- Solutions buffered at pH 5–9

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 2 hours in two separate 1-hour sessions

Health and Safety Considerations

- The different pH solutions should be low enough in concentration to be considered safe.

Practical Considerations

This practical will need to take place over an extended period of time. One session of the Petri dishes and seeds and then a return will be required no earlier than seven days later.

White mustard seeds are suggested for use as they are large, easy to handle and easy to observe for germination.

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Sample Data

pH	Height of plant (mm)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	21	20	19	18	19	18	20
6	28	28	29	31	29	27	28
7	34	35	33	34	34	35	37
8	31	29	30	32	28	27	32
9	24	23	22	23	25	21	22

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Pre-lab Tasks

1. This investigation requires you to measure the height of germinated plants. this as accurately as possible.
2. As well as the pH of the soil they are grown in, another factor that can affect weather conditions. Explain why weather is not a factor in your investigation control this variable.
3. A general, basic method for the proposed investigation is given below. Evaluate improvements where possible.
 - Collect five beakers and put a dry cotton wool pad into each one
 - Label the beakers pH 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9
 - Onto each piece of cotton wool, place a mustard seed
 - Water the seed using water of the appropriate pH value
 - When the seeds have grown, measure the height of each seedling
4. Studies on plant growth can also be carried out by sampling in their natural environment
 - (a) use a quadrat to estimate the population of sunflowers in a field
 - (b) use a transect to investigate the relationship between clover growth and

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Student Instructions

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

Before beginning your practical work you should read the instructions thoroughly and identify the independent and dependent variables. Once done, use this to design a results table which will allow you to record your experimental data.

In this experiment you are investigating the hypothesis:

'The pH a plant is grown in will affect its germination and growth. This is due to the fact that the growth being affected by pH.'

NB The following is an outline for the experiment you should carry out. It does not contain all the detail so ensure you have read it thoroughly before beginning and have a clear idea of the method you will follow.

1. Set up five Petri dishes containing equal amounts of cotton wool soaked in water of different pHs.
2. Into each Petri dish place 10 mustard seeds, ensuring the spaces between the seeds are filled with cotton wool.
3. Place all five dishes in a warm, light space where they will not be disturbed.
4. Allow the mustard seeds to germinate. If the cotton wool becomes dry, add more water to the dish, ensuring it is the correct pH.
5. Once the seeds have germinated, remove seeds from the dishes until each dish contains 10 germinated seeds.
6. After seven days, measure and record the height of each seedling.



SAFETY INFORMATION!

The different pH solutions should be low enough in concentration to be safe to handle.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

State two other observations (not height) about the plants you measured. Plot a graph of seed height against soil pH and use it to describe the relationship between the two variables.

Evaluation

Calculate the percentage error of each of your average height measurements.

Explain how you could extend your investigation to obtain a more accurate value for the rate of seed growth.

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Comprehension Questions

These questions all focus on a similar experiment to yours where the effect of a factor on the growth of a plant is studied. However, this time the factor is light, and the plants are investigated by measuring their height. The student is artificially growing them in a lab environment.

- Write a null hypothesis for the investigation carried out by the student.
- The student investigates three areas: full light, partial light and shaded. The student measures the height of the plants in each area.

	Height of plant (mm)		
	1	2	3
Full light	22	25	28
Partial light	15	15	18
Shaded	7	9	12

- Calculate the mean for the plants measured in the partial light
 - Calculate the standard deviation for the plants measured in the shade
- The student looked at the amount of clover found in each area by measuring a quadrat. Apart from the intensity of light in each area, suggest two other reasons why there might be different amounts of clover found.

area	% clover
Full light	30
Partial light	75
Shaded	25

- Based on experimental results from the previous year, the student expected the following percentage of clover in the full light area. Complete the table.

	Clover %	No. of quadrats
Observed		
Expected		

- Use the chi-squared test and distribution table to determine whether the results were to be expected.

		p
		0.05
Degrees of freedom	1	3.841
	2	5.991
	3	7.815
	4	9.488
	5	11.070

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Answer Sheets

Pre-lab Tasks

- Any detail from:
 - Place on a piece of white paper
 - Always start from where the shoot leaves the seed
 - Ensure the plant is held straight
 - Decide at the start on whether or not to include leaves in the height
- All the seeds were grown indoors and so were unaffected by weather conditions OR variation in weather conditions
- Areas to improve could be:
 - No detail of how to control temperature
 - No detail regarding how much water to use when watering the seeds
 - No detail regarding maintaining light intensity
 - No detail regarding the age/condition of the mustard seeds
 - No mention of how often to water the seedlings
 - No mention of how long to allow the seeds to grow for
 - Only one seed grown at each pH so will be difficult to spot anomalies
 - No detail regarding how to accurately measure the seeds
- Divide up the field into a grid and use a random number generator to decide where to count. Count the number of sunflowers in that area and then repeat to obtain 10 measurements. Deduce how many quadrats would fit into the area of the field and then scale up.
 - Place a tape measure from the tree out into the fields. At regular intervals along the tape place a quadrat and estimate the percentage of the quadrat which contains clover.

Model Results Table

pH	Height of plant (mm)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							

Data Analysis

Allow comments on:

- The number of seeds which successfully germinated at each pH
- The colour of the seedlings in each pH
- Any dead seedlings
- The size of any leaves
- The number of leaves

Relationship: a simple pattern is described (1) optimum pH suggested (1) use of data to suggest

Evaluation

% error = $(0.5 \div \text{height measurement}) \times 100$

Repeat this experiment using smaller intervals around the pH which has given the best growth

Repeat this experiment growing the seeds in soil and water them with the appropriate pH

Comprehension Questions

- Differing light intensity has no **significant** differences in plant growth. (1)
- $15 + 15 + 14 = 44 \div 3 = 15$ (1)
 - Check final answer, if 1 award all 5 marks, if not award marks as suggested below any stage of the calculation.
 - For each number subtract the mean (1)
 - Square the result (1)
 - Add up these values (1)
 - Divide by one less than the sample number (1)
 - Square root this number to get the standard deviation (1)

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3. Any two from:

- The type of soil could be different (pH or soil composition) (1)
- Animals could be grazing in some areas and not others (1)
- People could walk more in some areas than others (1)
- There could be different levels of competition from other plants (1)

4.

	Clover %	No clover %
Observed	30	70
Expected	45	55

All needed for the mark

5. $\frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$ for clover = 5 (1)

E

$\frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$ for no clover = 4.09 (1)

E

5 + 4.09 = 9.09 (1)

$n = 2 - 1 = 1$ degree of freedom (1)

(at $n = 1$ critical value is at 5 % value is 3.841) $9.09 > 3.841$ so there is a significant difference between the observed and expected results (results are not consistent) (1)

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Experiment 7 – Investigating the properties of fuels

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

This investigation allows students some experience in handling secondary data to evaluate the properties of fuels. They will also be able to fully evaluate the procedures undertaken.

Prior Learning

An awareness of the desired properties of fuel is necessary to fully evaluate this investigation. Knowledge of complete and incomplete combustion.

Suggested Starter Questions

- What are the desired properties in a fuel designed to be used to power vehicles?
 - ✓ *Low viscosity in order to flow easily through the pipes, high flammability, low volatility to allow it to be easily compressed within the storage system*
- What are the inherent risks within this practical and how will you protect yourself?
 - ✓ *The oils used are flammable and yet will require heating. They will be heated in a water bath, avoiding them being in contact with a naked flame.*

Brief Outline of Method

Students will carry out two techniques to investigate how temperature affects the viscosity of oils using a viscometer and dropping glass beads through two points.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- A selection of oils:
 - Sunflower
 - Olive
 - Rapeseed
- Stopwatch
- Glass beads
- Oil
- Pipe clay triangle
- Thermometer
- 2 plastic cups

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 2 hours

Health and Safety Considerations

- Sesame and nut oils are not recommended due to their potential to be allergenic. All oils are flammable and so should be kept away from naked flames.

Practical Considerations

If time is short, the class can be split into two groups which complete one practical each for comparison purposes.

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Sample Data – Method A

Sunflower

Temperature of oil (°C)	Time taken for bead to drop	
	1	2
20	5	6
25	3	3
30	2	1
35	1	1
40	1	1

Olive

Temperature of oil (°C)	Time taken for bead to drop	
	1	2
20	7	7
25	4	3
30	2	2
35	1	2
40	1	1

Rapeseed

Temperature of oil (°C)	Time taken for bead to drop	
	1	2
20	7	7
25	5	6
30	3	2
35	2	2
40	2	1

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Sample Data – Method B

Sunflower

Temperature of oil (°C)	Time taken to drain through viscometer	
	1	2
20	20	21
25	4	14
30	10	10
35	8	8
40	3	4

Olive

Temperature of oil (°C)	Time taken to drain through viscometer	
	1	2
20	24	25
25	19	18
30	14	14
35	11	12
40	6	7

Rapeseed

Temperature of oil (°C)	Time taken to drain through viscometer	
	1	2
20	24	26
25	20	21
30	15	17
35	13	12
40	8	8

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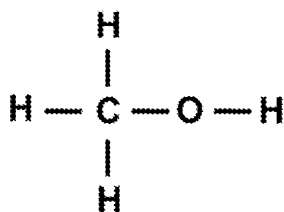
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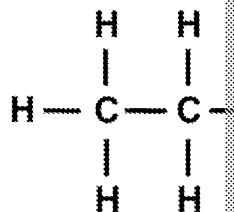
Pre-lab Tasks

1. Name the following organic fuels:

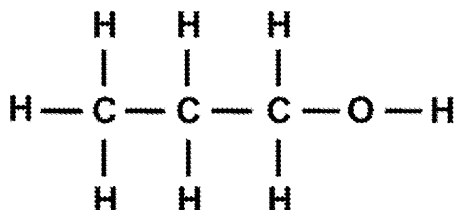
(a)



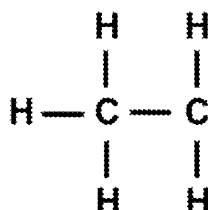
(b)



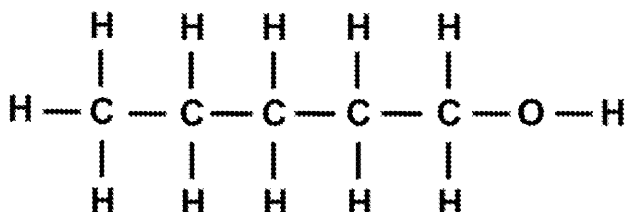
(c)



(d)



(e)



2. Give definitions for the following keywords:

- (a) Flammability
- (b) Toxicity
- (c) Incomplete combustion
- (d) Viscosity

3. Use the student instructions to help you draw labelled diagrams of the equipment and, consequently, draw up an equipment list.

4. Construct a hypothesis for this investigation.

5. Identify the independent and dependent variables for the investigation. Use a results table for your practical which will allow you to record all data.

6. Suggest two control variables and how they will be controlled.

7. Construct a risk assessment which considers all possible risks in this investigation and the measures you will take to avoid them.

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Student Instructions – Method A

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

NB The following is an outline for the experiment you should carry out. It does not contain all the detail so ensure you have read it thoroughly before beginning and have a clear idea of the method you will follow.

1. Set a beaker, filled approx. three quarters of the way with water, on a Bunsen burner and heat to 50 °C and 60 °C.
2. Fill a boiling tube with the oil to be tested and draw two marks on the side of the tube to define the test area. Place this tube in the water bath and use it to heat the oil to the required temperature.
3. Once the oil has reached the required temperature, remove it from the water bath and quickly drop it into the boiling tube of oil. Start the timer as soon as it passes the first mark and stop the timer when it passes the second mark.
4. Record the time it takes to pass between the two points and then repeat, using a different oil. Do not attempt to remove the glass beads from the boiling tube once used.
5. Allow the oil to reach the next temperature to be tested and repeat steps 3 and 4.
6. For temperatures cooler than 20 °C you will need to use a water bath filled with ice.
7. Repeat the whole process for any additional oils to be tested.

Data Analysis

For each oil tested, plot a graph of temperature against time for the glass bead test. Use these graphs to describe the general trend in viscosity of oils as temperature changes.

Plot one final graph which compares the viscosity of all the oils tested at 30 °C. Include the others you have plotted for this investigation, and why?

Student Instructions – Method B

1. Set a beaker, filled approx. three quarters of the way with water, on a Bunsen burner and heat to 50 °C and 60 °C.
2. Add 50 cm³ of the oil to be tested to a plastic cup and heat this in the water bath.
3. While the oil is heating use the funnel, tripod and clay triangle to make a cup viscometer from a second plastic cup underneath.
4. Once the oil has reached the required temperature, remove it from the water bath and start timing. Stop timing when the oil starts to drip and not flow.
5. Record the time it takes to flow through the cup viscometer and then repeat with a different oil.
6. Allow the oil to reach the next temperature to be tested and repeat steps 3 and 4.
7. For temperatures cooler than 20 °C you will need to use a water bath filled with ice.
8. Repeat the whole process for any additional oils to be tested.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

For each oil tested, plot a graph of temperature against time for the cup viscometer test. Use these graphs to describe the general trend in viscosity of oils as temperature changes.

Plot one final graph which compares the viscosity of all the oils tested at 30 °C. Include the others you have plotted for this investigation, and why?

Evaluation

Use a comparison of the advantages and disadvantages of each method, including control or manage, to discuss which method you believe to be the most accurate. How does temperature of oil affects the viscosity.

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Comprehension Questions

- Look at the results below. Do they support the hypothesis you made at the start of this investigation?

Results A

Temp of oil (°C)	Time taken to reach the bottom of the oil (s)
Room temp	
40	
50	
60	

Results B

Type of oil	Time taken to empty (s)		
	1	2	3
Sunflower	23	22	
Vegetable	12	12	
Rapeseed	16	15	
Linseed	18	17	

Results C

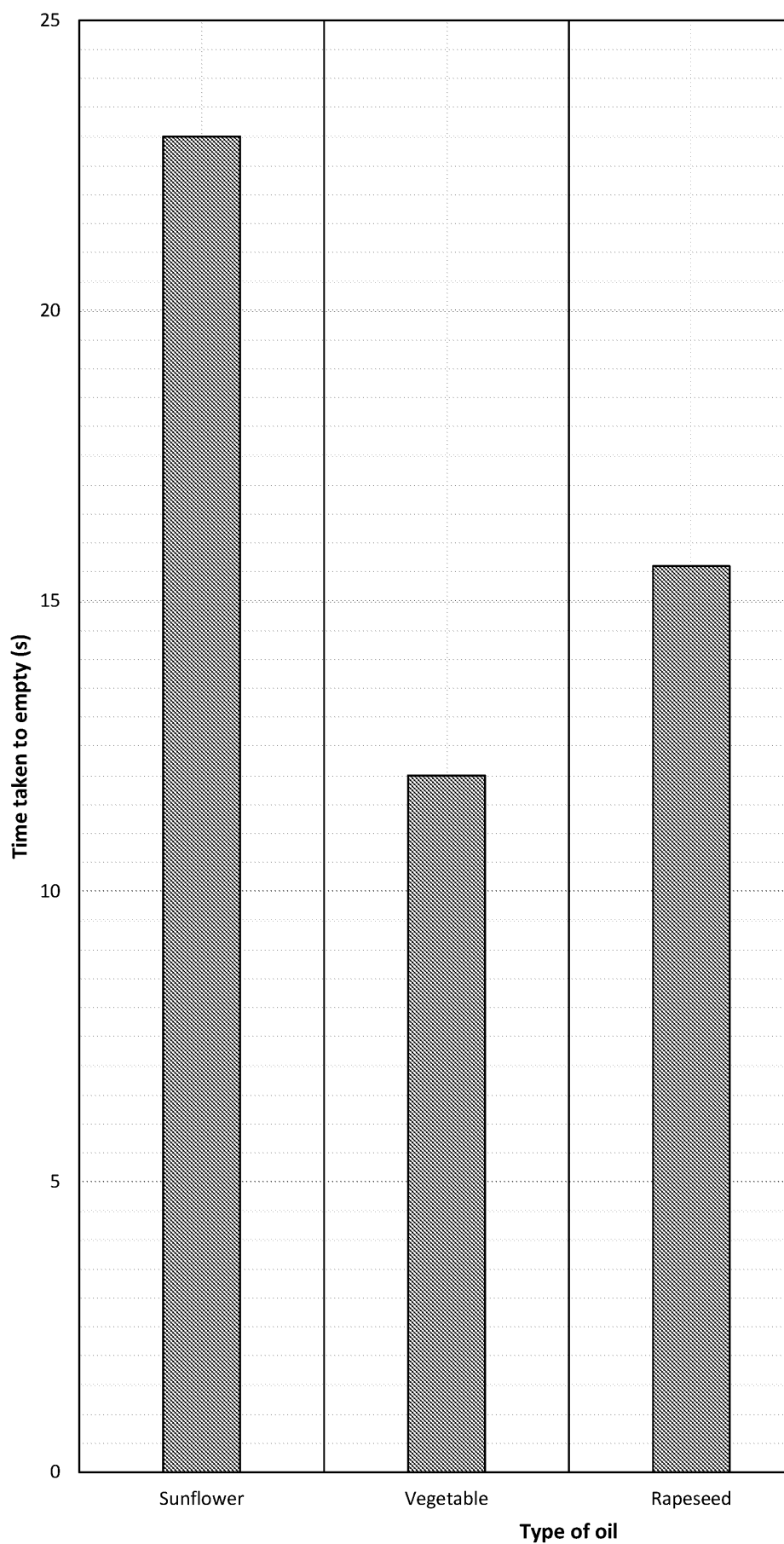
Temperature of the oil (°C)	Time taken to reach the bottom of the oil (s)		
	1	2	3
50	10	11	10
60	9	8	8
70	3	3	4
80	3	2	3
90	2	2	2
100	2	2	2

- The student plotted a graph from the data in results B (see appendix 2). Use error bars to this graph.
- Explain which type of oil gave the least reliable set of data.
- The investigation which produced results C was carried out with a thermometer to the nearest degree, a stopwatch which measured to the nearest second and a ruler to the nearest 10 cm. Calculate the percentage error for each measurement at 80 °C.
- Explain which piece of equipment would have the biggest impact on the accuracy of the results.
- Explain, using the concepts of repeatability and reproducibility, how you could improve your data.

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Appendix 2



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Answer Sheets

Pre-lab Tasks

- (a) – methanol, (b) – butan-1-ol, (c) – propan-1-ol, (d) – ethanol, (e) – pentan-1-ol
- (a) Flammability – the flammability of a substance is a measure of its ability to be
(b) Toxicity – a measure of the level of poison of a substance
(c) Incomplete combustion – the burning of a fuel in limited oxygen, producing carbon monoxide
(d) Viscosity – a measure of how thick and sticky a substance is

3. Method A

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 250 cm ³ beaker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thermometer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bunsen burner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boiling tubes filled |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tripod | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marker pen |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gauze | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruler |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stopwatch | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glass beads |

Method B

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 250 cm ³ beaker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thermometer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bunsen burner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oils to be tested |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tripod | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 plastic cups |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gauze | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pipe clay triangle |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stopwatch | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funnel |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measuring cylinder | |

- As temperature increases, the viscosity of an oil will decrease due to the extra kinetic energy of the molecules moving over each other more.

- Independent variable: temperature of oil (°C)

Dependent variable: time taken for glass bead to drop (s) / time taken for cup viscometer to flow

6. Method A

Distance bead travels: distance marked on using a ruler and marker pen

Surface area of glass bead: beads from the same production batch used

Method B

Volume of oil which drains: measured using a measuring cylinder

Size of hole in viscometer: use of same viscometer throughout

Any other sensible suggestion

-

Hazard	Risk	Control
Oil	Flammable	Only heat using a water bath
Hot oil	Can cause serious burns	Do not heat higher than 100°C
Glassware	Can smash and cause cuts	Keep your workspace clear of clutter with equipment and materials

Data Analysis

As temperature of oil increases, viscosity decreases. This should be accompanied by a description of the relationship is proportional or not.

The final graph should be a bar chart rather than a line graph. This is because categorical data is being plotted.

Evaluation

Comments should include:

Method A:

- Time for bead to drop is very short and can be impacted by poor human reaction time
- Glass bead does not always drop straight down and, therefore, distance is not consistent
- Very little variation in some results as precision was not high enough

Method B:

- Volume of oil changed each repeat due to being unable to transfer all from cup to viscometer
- End point hard to judge consistently
- Due to length of time taken, the temperature of the oil changed throughout each repeat

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Comprehension Questions

- Results A – do support the hypothesis (1) as the hotter the oil, the faster the viscosity decreases (1) as the temperature increases, lower the viscosity. However, the lack of repeats makes it hard to trust the reliability of the results (1).
Results B – do not support the hypothesis (1) as the independent variable is not temperature (1).
Results C – do support the hypothesis (1) but also suggest that past 90 °C the temperature has little effect on the viscosity (1).
- Use the standard deviations given below and the scale on the graph to check accuracy (1).

Type of oil	s.d.
Sunflower	0.816 (1 mark)
Vegetable	0 (1 mark)
Rapeseed	0.471 (1 mark)
Linseed	0.816 (1 mark)

- 4 error bars correctly drawn (2) OR 2/3 error bars correctly drawn (1)
- Sunflower and linseed (1) as they have the largest standard deviation (1)
- thermometer – % error = $(0.5 \div 80) \times 100 = 0.625 \%$ (1)
 - stopwatch – % error = $(0.5 \div 2.6) \times 100 = 19.2 \%$ (1)
 - ruler – % error = $(0.05 \div 10) \times 100 = 0.5 \%$ (1)
- The stopwatch (1) as it has the largest percentage error (1)
- Repeatability: repeat the experiment (1) while using the same equipment (1)
Reproducibility: other students should carry out the experiment (1) and compare results (1)

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Experiment 8 – Investigating the energy

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

This investigation has been set in the Unit 3 exam in both the food and alcohol for a well-tested experiment which students will probably have had the opportunity to do on their educational journey. This practical also allows students the opportunity to increase the use of data loggers. This could allow them to increase the level of detail in their plans.

Prior Learning

Students will be required to use $E = mc\Delta T$ in order to calculate energy changes and use the equations and calculate relative formula masses for alcohols.

Suggested Starter Questions

- What is the general equation for the combustion of a fuel?
✓ *Fuel + oxygen → Carbon dioxide + water*
- What possible observations could you make during this experiment?
✓ *Heat given off, colour of flame, size of flame, sootiness of flame, how well the food burns, appearance of foodstuff after burning*
- What are the areas in this experiment that are most likely to cause inaccuracies?
✓ *Loss of heat to the environment, inconsistent heating of the liquid*
- What are the different variables in this investigation?
✓ *Independent = type of food, dependent = temperature change of water, distance of food from the water*

Brief Outline of Method

Students burn a mass of foodstuff, capturing the energy given off in a test tube of water. By measuring the temperature change and the mass of food burnt, students can calculate an energy value.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- Balance
- Selection of foodstuff (crisps, crackers, marshmallows, popcorn, bread)
- Mounted needle
- Data logger with temperature sensor / thermometer

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 1.5 hours

Health and Safety Considerations

- Check in advance for any known allergies among the students

Practical Considerations

If the foodstuffs provided are unable to burn efficiently on a mounted needle, i.e. they fall off, an alternative method can be carried out supporting the food on a teaspoon.

Foods high in protein can cause strong odours when burnt.

Sample Data

Type of food	Start temp of water (°C)			End temp of water (°C)			Initial mass of food (g)	
Marshmallow	19	19	19	73	49	52	4.2	4.7
Maize crisp	19	19	19	67	68	65	3.7	4.0
Cream cracker	19	19	19	62	66	64	3.2	3.3

NB An anomaly has been included for marshmallow, trial 1

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Pre-lab Tasks

1. Match the keyword to its meaning:

1. Combustion

a) The unit for mass

2. Joule

b) A chemical change which is reversible

3. Exothermic

c) A chemical that can be used as a fuel

4. Oxidation

d) The scientific name for a substance

5. Fuel

e) A chemical change that involves oxidation, or loss of electrons

2. In this practical, you will be burning food items and calculating the energy produced.
- (a) State the general equation for combustion of a fuel.
- (b) Use this equation to write a balanced symbol equation for the complete combustion of
- ethanol
 - pentan-1-ol
3. Read the 'Student instructions' sheet and write a list of the equipment required for each procedure. Ensure you select the most suitable piece of apparatus for each procedure and justify your selection.
4. Produce an annotated diagram of the equipment set-up, including any modifications to ensure accuracy. Explain how these modifications will ensure accurate results.
5. The results you obtain for this experiment will not match those given in the textbook for the foodstuffs. Describe how your value will differ and give two reasons for this.
6. Identify the independent and dependent variables for the investigation. Use the results table to be used to record **all** data required to determine the energy produced.
7. Construct a risk assessment which considers all possible risks in this investigation and the measures you will take to avoid them.

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Student Instructions

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

NB The following is an outline for the experiment you should carry out. It does not contain all the detail, so ensure you have read it thoroughly before beginning and have a clear method you will follow.

- Place 10 cm³ of water in a boiling tube and record the temperature.
How will you measure this water to ensure the volume is as accurate as possible?
- Weigh a small amount of food and then position it underneath the boiling tube.
How precisely will you record the mass of the food? How will you ensure repeatable results for the foodstuff?
- Ignite the foodstuff and heat the water. If the flame goes out, immediately relight it.
- Once the food is completely burnt, stir the water and retake the temperature.
What is the benefit of stirring the water before taking the temperature?
- Reweigh any unburnt food.
Why is this stage necessary?
- Empty the boiling tube and then repeat the experiment.
How many foods will you test? How many repeats will you carry out, and why?



SAFETY INFORMATION!

- Food allergies are increasingly common. Be aware of the needs of those with food allergies.
- Food used in a lab is not to be tasted or consumed.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

Other than change in temperature, state two observations you made regarding the experiment.

Use the equation:

$$\text{heat energy} = \text{mass of water} \times \text{specific heat capacity of water} \times \text{change in temperature}$$

specific heat capacity of water = 4.2 Jg⁻¹ °C⁻¹, 100 cm³ of water has a mass of 100 g

Use the equation to calculate the average heat energy in joules supplied to the water by each burnt food item. Then use the equation to calculate the average heat energy in joules supplied to the water by each burnt food item. Then use the equation to calculate the average heat energy in joules supplied to the water by each burnt food item. Then use the equation to calculate the average heat energy in joules supplied to the water by each burnt food item.

Evaluation

Explain, using the concepts of repeatability and reproducibility, how you could test your results. Explain two ways you could extend this investigation in order to improve the quality of your results.

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Comprehension Questions

1. State two control variables in this investigation and explain how you control them.
2. Identify one other variable in this experiment that was difficult to control. Give a reason for this.
3. Focus on one of the food items you investigated. State the equipment used to measure the heat energy transferred. State the percentage error for the equipment you used to:
 - (a) measure the volume of water
 - (b) record the temperature
 - (c) determine the mass of food burnt

State which piece of equipment would have the biggest impact on the accuracy of the results.

Your colleague carried out a similar investigation involving burning organic alcohols. The heat energy transferred was used to heat 100 cm³ of water. Each time the water was heated by 30 °C by burning 1.0 g of alcohol, resulting in a heat transfer of 12.54 kJ.

4. Your colleague's results are shown in the table below. Complete the missing information.

$$\text{Heat of combustion (kJ mol}^{-1}\text{)} = \frac{\text{heat energy supplied} \times \text{molar mass}}{\text{Mass of fuel burnt}}$$

Name of alcohol	Mass of fuel burnt (g)	Formula of alcohol	Molar mass (g mol ⁻¹)
Ethanol	0.47		
Propan-1-ol	0.38		
Butan-1-ol	0.36		
Pentan-1-ol	0.32		

5. Information regarding the price of each fuel is given below.

Name of alcohol	Price per litre (£)
Ethanol	2.47
Propan-1-ol	12.59
Butan-1-ol	8.64
Pentan-1-ol	64.53

Evaluate the statement:

'Ethanol is the best alternative fuel to use in a car.'

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Answer Sheets

Pre-lab Tasks

1. Match the keyword to its meaning:

1. Combustion	a) The unit for mass
2. Joule	b) A chemical change where a substance is broken down into two or more substances
3. Exothermic	c) A chemical that is burnt
4. Oxidation	d) The scientific name for a substance
5. Fuel	e) A chemical change where a substance is broken down into two or more substances, with the release of energy

2. (a) fuel + oxygen → carbon dioxide + water
 (b) i. $C_2H_5OH + 3.5 O_2 \rightarrow 2 CO_2 + 3 H_2O$ (allow multiples)
 ii. $C_5H_{11}OH + 8 O_2 \rightarrow 5 CO_2 + 6 H_2O$

- 3.

Equipment needed	Justification
Boiling tube	More suitable than a beaker due to the small volume of water
Clam and clamp stand	To ensure the boiling tube remains in the same position throughout the experiment
10 cm ³ pipette	Most accurate way to measure the water to be used
Thermometer / data logger and temperature probe	This will vary depending on the resources available Best way to determine the temperature of the water
Balance which records to 2 d.p.	The change in mass of food will be very small, so a balance with 2 d.p. is needed
Ruler	To ensure the food is placed the same distance from the boiling tube each repeat
Mounted needle	To secure the food item while it is burning
Heat shield	To prevent heat loss to the surroundings

4. Diagram should show:
- A specified height for foodstuff from boiling tube – as a control variable to ensure the same distance is reached in each experiment
 - A heat shield around the outside of the apparatus – to prevent any heat loss to the surroundings
5. The obtained value will be lower than that published in a data book. This could be due to the use of different equipment and the fact that all foodstuff will not burn fully / complete combustion.
6. Independent variable: foodstuff burnt
 Dependent variable: temperature change of water (°C)

Type of food	Start temp of water (°C)	End temp of water (°C)	Temperature change of water (°C)	Initial mass of food (g)

- 7.

Hazard	Risk	Control
Mounted needle	Can cause cuts	Keep sharp end of needle pointing away from yourself when placing food
Items of food	Potential for allergies within the room	Check for any allergies within the room with practical work foodstuffs provided
Glassware	Can smash and cause cuts	Keep your workspace clear of glassware with equipment and

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Data Analysis

Allow comments on:

- Colour of the flame
- Size of the flame
- The fluctuation of the flame itself

Evaluation

Repeat the experiment using the same equipment

Other learners should carry out the same experiment and the results should be compared

Any two linked statements from:

- Repeat the experiment more times until results become concordant – this will help
- Extend the range of the results by repeating the experiment with further foodstuffs
- Repeat the experiment with liquid food sources such as oils to see if there are any p

Comprehension Questions

- The volume of water used (1) measured using a pipette (1)
 - Distance of food away from boiling tube (1) measured using a ruler (1)
 - Distance of flame from the boiling tube (1) the flame itself fluctuated in size through
 - State the equipment used and calculate the percentage error for the equipment you
 - pipette – % error = $(0.2 \div 10) \times 100 = 2\%$ (1)
 - thermometer – % error = $((0.5 \times 2) \div \text{average temp change}) \times 100$ (2: additional m
 - determine the mass of food burnt – % error = $((0.005 \times 2) \div \text{average mass change}) \times 100$ (2: additional m
- The piece of equipment with the largest % error would have the biggest effect on the

4.

Name of alcohol	Mass of fuel burnt (g)	Formula of alcohol	Molar mass (g mol ⁻¹)
Ethanol	0.47	C ₂ H ₅ OH	46.07
Propan-1-ol	0.38	C ₃ H ₇ OH	60.10
Butan-1-ol	0.36	C ₄ H ₉ OH	74.12
Pentan-1-ol	0.32	C ₅ H ₁₁ OH	88.15

Formula of alcohol: all four correct (2 marks), three or two correct (1 mark)

Molar mass: all four correct (2 marks), three or two correct (1 mark)

Heat of combustion: all four correct (3 marks), three or two correct (2 marks), one correct (1 mark)

5. Any 3 marks from the following:

- In a litre of fuel for ethanol you would have more moles of chemical than for the other three
- Ethanol is the cheapest fuel per litre, but it has the lowest heat of combustion
- The other three fuels have a larger heat of combustion, but are also more expensive
- Any correct manipulation of the numbers (1)

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Experiment 9 – Investigating the resistance

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

This is a well-known experiment which students should have covered as part of their prior learning. It allows them the opportunity to practise further processing of data before plotting.

Prior Learning

While the majority of this task is very straightforward, students will need to be familiar with the voltage = current × resistance equation in order to process their data.

Suggested Starter Questions

- How are voltmeters and ammeters connected in circuits, and what is the purpose of each?
✓ *Voltmeters record voltage and are added in parallel, ammeters record current and are added in series.*
- What is your hypothesis for this investigation?
✓ *The longer the length of wire, the higher the resistance. This is due to the more collisions between the current-carrying electrons and the atoms within the wire.*
- Suggest two control variables for this experiment and how they will be controlled.
✓ *Temperature – the circuit will be disconnected between measurements to allow the wire to cool down. Material / cross-section area of the wire – use the same wire each time.*
- Suggest why the meters in this experiment may not record a zero value, even when the circuit is disconnected.
✓ *It is very difficult to connect the crocodile clips at 0 cm of wire without touching the wire, so there is always some resistance within themselves.*

Brief Outline of Method

Students will record current and voltage readings for the varying lengths of resistance wire. They will then process these to discover the link between length of wire and resistance.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- A suitable power supply
- Resistance wire
- Ammeter
- Metre rule
- Voltmeter
- Connecting leads
- 2 crocodile clips

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 1 hour

Health and Safety Considerations

The resistance wire can get very hot during the practical. Ensure the power pack is switched off between repeats and use low values of voltage.

Practical Considerations

The resistance wire can be created by using a metre of 22 swg constantan which is available from most suppliers. Two crocodile clips can be attached, one at a value of 0 mm, and the other at the end of the wire to create wires of different length.

Sample Data

Length of wire (cm)	Current (A)	Voltage (V)
10	1.29	
20	0.81	
30	0.60	
40	0.48	
50	0.40	
60	0.33	
70	0.29	
80	0.26	
90	0.23	
100	0.21	

NB An anomaly has been included for 90 cm wire

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Pre-lab Tasks

1. Draw out the circuit symbols for the following electrical components:
 - Bulb
 - Cell
 - Battery
 - Ammeter
 - Voltmeter
 - Resistor
2. Draw out electrical circuits which show:
 - (a) two bulbs placed in series powered by two cells
 - (b) two bulbs, each controlled by a switch placed in parallel and powered by two cells
3. State the equation used to calculate resistance if you know the voltage and current.
4. Draw the circuit required to measure the resistance of a wire of varying length.
5. Complete the following table:

Reading on voltmeter (V)	Reading on ammeter (A)	Resistance (R)
	1.5	
24		
9	3	
3	6	
12		
	2	

6. Identify the independent and dependent variables for the investigation. Use your results table for your practical which will allow you to record all data.
7. Suggest two control variables and how they will be controlled.
8. Construct a risk assessment which considers all possible risks in this investigation and the measures you will take to avoid them.

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Student Instructions

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

In this experiment you are investigating the hypothesis:

'The longer the length of wire, the higher the resistance. This is due to the increased collisions between the current-carrying electrons and the atoms of the wire.'

NB The following is an outline for the experiment you should carry out. It does not contain enough detail so ensure you have read it thoroughly before beginning and have a clear method you will follow.

1. Collect the following equipment:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A power supply | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ammeter |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voltmeter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 crocodile clips |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connecting wires | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metre stick |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resistance wire | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tape |

2. Decide on the number of wire lengths to investigate.

3. Connect the apparatus together to form the circuit you have drawn during the preparation.

4. Ensuring you disconnect the circuit in between measurements, record the current and the length of wire you have chosen to investigate.

5. Repeat this process until you have obtained a suitable number of repeats.



SAFETY INFORMATION!

The resistance wire can get very hot during the practical. Ensure the power pack is switched off between repeats and use low values of voltage.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

Calculate the average resistance for each length of wire and plot a graph of resistance against length in mm.

Use the equation:

$$\text{voltage (V)} = \text{current (A)} \times \text{resistance } (\Omega)$$

Use your graph to describe the relationship between the two variables.

Evaluation

There are two benefits of disconnecting the circuit in between measurements. State one. For each length of wire, calculate the standard deviation for the set of results and plot error bars to the points on your graph. Use this information to decide which length was the most accurate.

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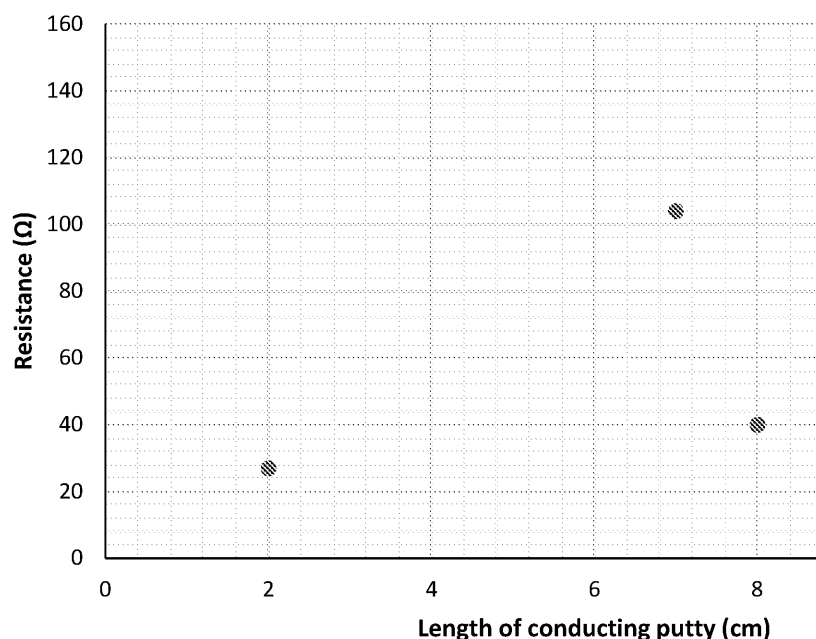


Comprehension Questions

1. A similar experiment is carried out by one of your peers. Instead of using resistance wire, a material known as conducting putty. This material can be cut to any length to allow an electric current.

Using an identical circuit to yours with the resistance wire substituted for the putty, the same method was used to obtain a set of results:

- Measure how long the conducting putty is
- Connect the putty into the circuit
- Record the values for current and voltage
- Change the length of the conducting putty
- Write down the new readings



The student concludes that the relationship between length of putty and resistance is linear. Evaluate the learner's investigation. You should comment on the method for the conclusion formed.

2. Your peer then extended the investigation to see the effect on the voltage of circuits previously experimented on. It was recorded that when the resistance across the lamp was 1.47 V and the current was 0.54 A. Show the power dissipated by the lamp.
3. The above information can then be used to determine how long a lamp would remain powered in a torch. The average energy stored by a cell is 10 000 J. Assume the power of the lamp is 0.8 W. Calculate the time, in hours, that the lamp would remain powered.
4. The voltmeter used by your peer had an uncertainty (maximum error) of 0.01 V. Calculate the percentage error in the measurement taken in Q2.



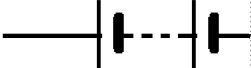


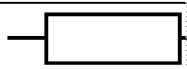
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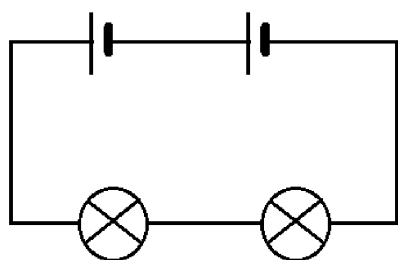
Answer Sheets

Pre-lab Tasks

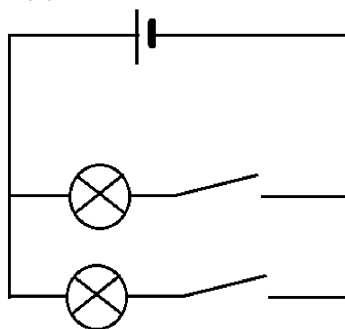
1.

Component	Circuit Symbol
Bulb	
Cell	
Battery	
Ammeter	
Voltmeter	
Resistor	

2. (a)

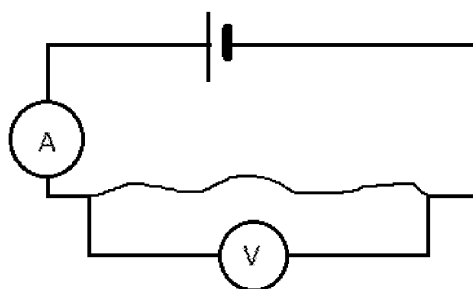


(b)



3. Resistance (R) = $\frac{\text{Voltage (V)}}{\text{Current (I)}}$

4.



5.

Reading on Voltmeter (V)	Reading on Ammeter (A)	Res
3	1.5	
24	4	
9	3	
3	6	
12	6	
10	2	

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6. Independent variable: Length of wire (mm)
Dependent variable: Resistance of wire (Ω)

Length of wire (cm)	Current (A)				Voltage (V)			
	1	2	3	Mean	1	2	3	Mean
10								
20								
30								
40								
50								
60								
70								
80								
90								
100								

7. Any two from:
Temperature of wire, cross-sectional area of wire, material of wire. These are controlled between readings and using the same wire for each measurement.

8.

Hazard	Risk	Control
Wires	Fraying causing risk of electric shock	Check the condition of wires
Resistance wire	Can get hot and cause minor burns	Use low-voltage power supply between readings

Evaluation

- By switching off the circuit in between readings you allow the resistance wire to cool down, reducing the chance of being burnt during the investigation.
- By switching off the circuit in between readings you allow the resistance wire to cool down, reducing the temperature, which will secure more accurate results as temperature can also affect resistance.

Comprehension Questions

- Any three from:
Method:
 - No specific mention of specific lengths for the putty (1)
 - Putty should be measured in mm rather than cm (1)
 - No discussion of keeping the cross section of the putty the same (1)
 - No mention of switching off the current in between readings to ensure constant current (1)

Any three from:

Results:

- No repeat readings evident for each length (1)
- The obtained data is not evenly spread out across the range (1)
- Result at 8 cm appears to be an anomaly (1)
- Readings required for 3 cm, 4 cm, 5 cm and 6 cm (1)
- There is no line of best fit drawn on the graph (1)

Conclusion

- The data does not support the conclusion (1)
- As length increases, the resistance increases (1)

- power = voltage \times current (1)
= 1.47×0.54 (1)
= 0.79 W (1)
- power = energy \div time (1) \rightarrow time = energy \div power (1)
= $10,000 \div 0.8$ (1)
= 12,500 seconds (1) \rightarrow 3.5 hours (1)
- percentage error = (uncertainty \div reading) \times 100 (1)
= $(0.005 \div 1.47) \times 100$ (1)
= 0.34 % (1)

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Experiment 10 – Investigating

Teacher's Notes

Purpose

This practical involves students developing a multicircuit set-up alongside using circuit measurements to calculate power. They are expected to plan the practical themselves.

Prior Learning

Students need to be aware of the power equation and how current and voltage are measured.

Suggested Starter Questions

- What is an LDR? Suggest some everyday uses.
 - ✓ *A light-dependent resistor. A component whose resistance changes as the light intensity changes. As light intensity increases, resistance decreases. It can be used to automatically switch a lamp on when the light gets to a certain level.*
- What equation is used to determine power of electric appliances and how voltage and current are required to calculate it?
 - ✓ *power = voltage × current. An ammeter measures current and a voltmeter measures voltage.*

Brief Outline of Method

Students will vary the voltage to a lamp, ensuring current and voltage are recorded. The voltage being supplied. This lamp in turn will affect the resistance of an LDR which will have a variable resistor.

The pre-lab tasks given for this task require students to plan a method for this investigation. A student instruction sheet has been provided that could help support the method as described in the pre-lab tasks or could be used for the class to follow. Some methods which are not feasible to conduct in the lab environment.

Required Equipment

In addition to standard laboratory apparatus students will need access to:

- A suitable power supply
- Connecting leads
- Ammeter
- LDR
- Voltmeter
- Bulb
- Ohmmeter
- Variable resistor

Time Requirements

Suggested lab time: 1 hour

Health and Safety Considerations

- Do not allow the voltage to get so high that it will damage the equipment. Take care during the investigation; avoid touching it.

Practical Considerations

This practical should be trialled before attempting with students in order to give them an idea of the power supply and best distance to set the bulb at from the LDR.

Sample Data

Current (A)	Voltage (V)	Resistance (Ω)
1.40	0.89	
0.90	1.14	
0.76	1.23	
0.54	1.29	
0.47	1.34	
0.39	1.39	
0.35	1.42	
0.29	1.46	
0.27	1.47	
0.24	1.47	

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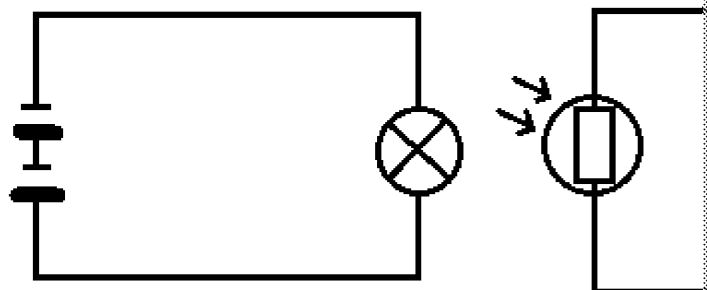
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Pre-lab Tasks

- The resistance of an LDR changes based on the intensity of the light shining on it.
- The brightness of a bulb can be affected by the power supplied to it.

These two statements can be linked together by setting up the following circuits



You will be provided with the following equipment:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A power supply	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voltmeter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ammeter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ohmmeter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LDR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connecting leads
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bulb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Variable resistor

Write a plan which details how you can investigate how the resistance of an LDR changes in response to a lamp which is shining on it. You are expected to make modifications to the circuit to fully investigate this problem.

You should include the following:

- A hypothesis which states what you believe the outcome of this investigation will be, and evidence to support your reasoning
- A description of the purpose of each piece of equipment
- A logical list of instructions, highlighting any stages you believe will ensure accurate results
- Identification of the variables in your investigation: independent/dependent variables, control/control variables, control/measurement and are there any variables you believe will be difficult to control?
- What range and interval will you select for your independent variable, and why?
- How will you record your data? Draft a version of the results table you can use to record your experimental observations.
- What are the inherent risks within this experiment and how will you minimise them?

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Student Instructions

You are expected to ensure you are working safely and observing good laboratory practice.

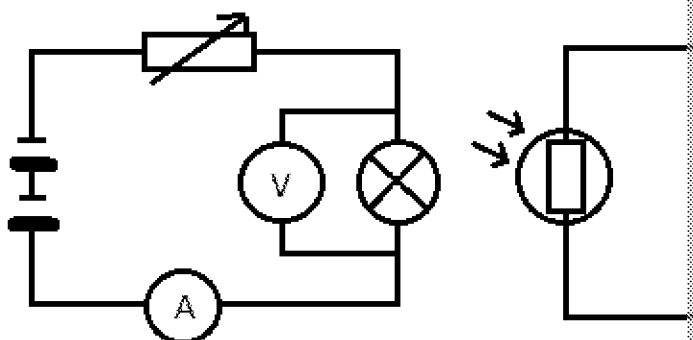
The following method can be used to aid you in the planning process. Consider the instructions to ensure that the practical you design shows good scientific practice.

1. Collect the following equipment:

- ☒ A power supply
- ☒ Ammeter
- ☒ LDR
- ☒ Bulb

- ☒ Voltmeter
- ☒ Ohmmeter
- ☒ Connecting leads
- ☒ Variable resistor

2. Connect the apparatus together to form the circuits shown below:



State and explain any modifications to these circuits from those shown in the textbook.

3. Ensure the room is in a suitable condition and that the lamp is in an appropriate position.

What does this mean? Where will you place the lamp, and why?

4. Set the power supply to a suitable voltage and then record the values shown on the meters.

What is a 'suitable' voltage? Ensure you consider health and safety as well as voltage.

5. Use the variable resistor to change the voltage supplied to the bulb and record the readings.

What will you do in between each reading? How many different voltages will you use?

6. Repeat this process until you are satisfied with the data you have collected.



SAFETY INFORMATION!

Do not allow the voltage to get so high that it will damage the equipment. Throughout the investigation, avoid touching it.

Data Analysis and Evaluation

Data Analysis

Use the equation:

$$\text{power (W)} = \text{current (A)} \times \text{voltage (V)}$$

to determine the average power supplied to the bulb for each set of resistance readings. Plot a graph of power against resistance. Use your graph to describe the relationship between the two quantities.

Evaluation

Suggest stages in your method which may have introduced error into your investigation. Suggest ways in which the investigation could potentially be improved in future repeats.

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Comprehension Questions

1. State two observations you made during this investigation other than the voltages and currents meters changing.
2. You used the same ammeter throughout your investigation. Explain how one could ensure the accuracy of the ammeter.
3. Explain, using the concepts of repeatability and reproducibility, how you could ensure the accuracy of your results.
4. The conditions within the room were very important in this investigation. State the biggest impact on your results and explain how you ensured this remained constant.
5. A student has carried out an experiment similar to yours using an LED in place of an LDR. The results of the investigation are shown in the table below.

Power (W)	Resistance (Ω)
1	24.4
1.5	19.9
2	22.3
2.5	12.8
3	9.1
3.5	4.9
4	

Explain which result is an anomaly.

6. Explain how you would deal with this anomaly to ensure the results obtained are accurate.
7. Use the table to predict the resistance of the LDR when the LED is supplied with 4 W.
8. During this investigation, the student recorded the percentage error for each piece of equipment. The ammeter had a percentage error of 0.5 %. The voltmeter had a percentage error of 0.2 %. The ohmmeter recorded resistance to the nearest 0.1 Ω . Explain which piece of equipment had the greatest effect on accuracy at a power of 2.5 W.

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Answer Sheet

Pre-lab Tasks

Hypothesis: as the power supplied to the bulb increases, the resistance of the LDR will decrease in light energy producing more free electrons, and, therefore, increasing the current for the same voltage.
See 'Student instructions' Sheet for suggested method.

Current (A)				Voltage (V)				Power (W)
1	2	3	Mean	1	2	3	Mean	

Hazard	Risk	
Wires	Fraying causing risk of electric shock	Check the condition of wires
Bulb	Can get hot and cause minor burns	Use low-voltage power supply and ensure current between 0.05 and 0.1 A

Comprehension Questions

- The brightness of the light bulb changed (1), the bulb became warm (1)
- Any one point from (2 marks):
 - Light conditions in the environment (1) – all light sources were switched off and the room was dark (1)
 - Distance of lamp from LDR (1) – measured with a ruler (1)
 Any other sensible suggestion
- Repeatability: repeat the experiment (1) while using the same equipment (1)
Reproducibility: other students should carry out the experiment (1) and compare results (1)
- External light sources (1) all lights other than the bulb were switched off (1) any external light sources were blocked out (1)
- The result at 1.5 W (1) it does not fit the pattern (1)
- Any two from:
 - Ignore it when calculating the average (1)
 - Repeat the result again (1)
 - Plot a graph and use the line of best fit to interpolate the true value (1)
- Any value between 3.5 and 0 (1)
- Percentage error = $(\text{uncertainty} \div \text{reading}) \times 100$ (1)
Ohmmeter = 0.05 uncertainty (1)
= $(0.05 \div 12.8) \times 100 = 0.02\%$ (1)
The voltmeter had the biggest effect as it has the highest percentage error (1)

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