

GATE 2023 Chemistry Question Paper

Time Allowed :3 Hours	Maximum Marks :100	Total Questions :65
-----------------------	--------------------	---------------------

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. Each GATE 2023 paper consists of a total of 100 marks. The examination is divided into two sections – General Aptitude (GA) and the Candidate's Selected Subjects. General Aptitude carries 15 marks, while the remaining 85 marks are dedicated to the candidate's chosen test paper syllabus.
2. GATE 2023 will be conducted in English as a Computer Based Test (CBT) at select centres in select cities. The duration of the examination is 3 hours.
3. MCQs carry 1 mark or 2 marks.
4. For a wrong answer in a 1-mark MCQ, 1/3 mark is deducted.
5. For a wrong answer in a 2-mark MCQ, 2/3 mark is deducted.
6. No negative marking for wrong answers in MSQ or NAT questions.

General Aptitude

1. "I cannot support this proposal. My _____ will not permit it."

- (A) conscious
 - (B) consensus
 - (C) conscience
 - (D) consent
-

2. Courts : _____ : : Parliament : Legislature (By word meaning)

- (A) Judiciary
 - (B) Executive
 - (C) Governmental
 - (D) Legal
-

3. What is the smallest number with distinct digits whose digits add up to 45?

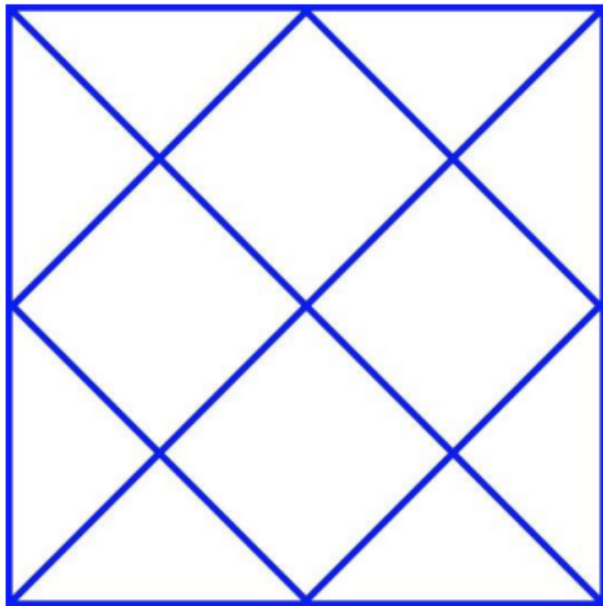
- (A) 123555789
 - (B) 123457869
 - (C) 123456789
 - (D) 99999
-

4. In a class of 100 students,
- (i) there are 30 students who neither like romantic movies nor comedy movies,
 - (ii) the number of students who like romantic movies is twice the number of students who like comedy movies, and
 - (iii) the number of students who like both romantic movies and comedy movies is 20.

How many students in the class like romantic movies?

- (A) 40
 - (B) 20
 - (C) 60
 - (D) 30
-

5. How many rectangles are present in the given figure?



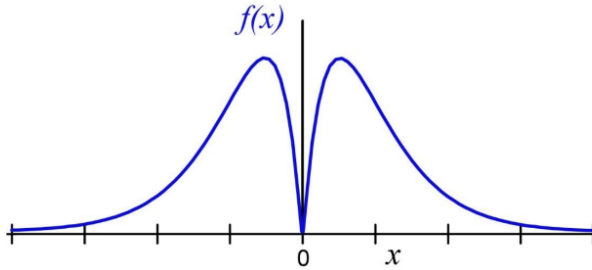
- (A) 8
 - (B) 9
 - (C) 10
 - (D) 12
-

6. Forestland is a planet inhabited by different kinds of creatures. Among other creatures, it is populated by animals all of whom are ferocious. There are also creatures that have claws, and some that do not. All creatures that have claws are ferocious.

Based only on the information provided above, which one of the following options can be logically inferred with *certainty*?

- (A) All creatures with claws are animals.
- (B) Some creatures with claws are non-ferocious.
- (C) Some non-ferocious creatures have claws.
- (D) Some ferocious creatures are creatures with claws.

7. Which one of the following options represents the given graph?



- (A) $f(x) = x^2 2^{-|x|}$
- (B) $f(x) = x 2^{-|x|}$
- (C) $f(x) = |x| 2^{-x}$
- (D) $f(x) = x 2^{-x}$

8. Which one of the following options can be inferred from the given passage alone?

When I was a kid, I was partial to stories about other worlds and interplanetary travel. I used to imagine that I could just gaze off into space and be whisked to another planet.

[Excerpt from *The Truth about Stories* by T. King]

- (A) It is a child's description of what he or she likes.
- (B) It is an adult's memory of what he or she liked as a child.
- (C) The child in the passage read stories about interplanetary travel only in parts.
- (D) It teaches us that stories are good for children.

9. Out of 1000 individuals in a town, 100 unidentified individuals are covid positive. Due to lack of adequate covid-testing kits, the health authorities of the town devised a strategy to identify these covid-positive individuals. The strategy is to:

- (i) Collect saliva samples from all 1000 individuals and randomly group them into sets of 5.
- (ii) Mix the samples within each set and test the mixed sample for covid.
- (iii) If the test done in (ii) gives a negative result, then declare all the 5 individuals to be covid negative.
- (iv) If the test done in (ii) gives a positive result, then all the 5 individuals are separately tested for covid.

Given this strategy, no more than _____ testing kits will be required to identify all the 100 covid positive individuals irrespective of how they are grouped.

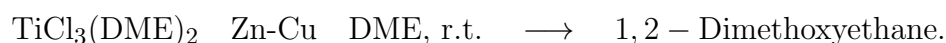
- (A) 700
 - (B) 600
 - (C) 800
 - (D) 1000
-

10. A $100\text{ cm} \times 32\text{ cm}$ rectangular sheet is folded 5 times. Each time the sheet is folded, the long edge aligns with its opposite side. Eventually, the folded sheet is a rectangle of dimensions $100\text{ cm} \times 1\text{ cm}$.

The total number of creases visible when the sheet is unfolded is _____.

- (A) 32
 - (B) 5
 - (C) 31
 - (D) 63
-

11. The major product formed in the given reaction is:

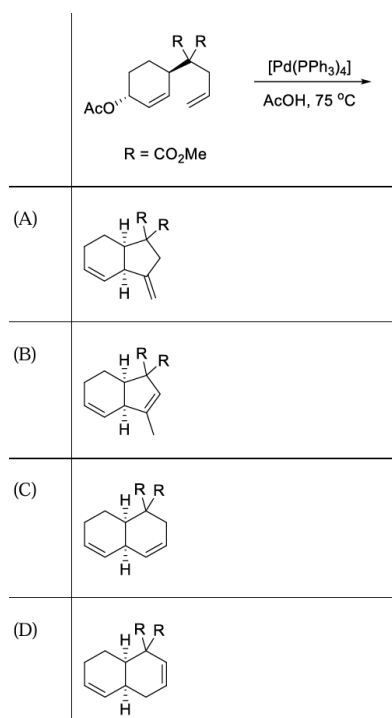


- (A) $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ (1,2-Butanediol)
 - (B) $\text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}$ (Tetrahydrofuran)
 - (C) $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ (1,2-Butanediol)
 - (D) $\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$ (1,2-Dimethoxyethane)
-

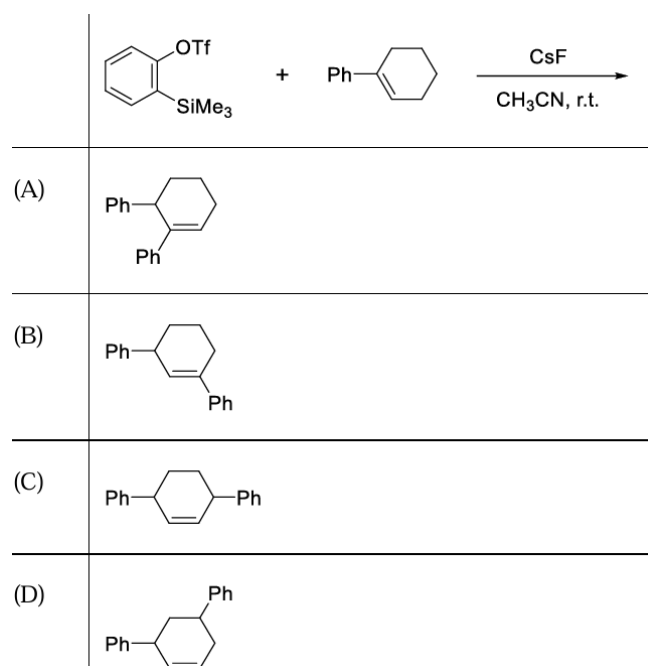
12. The compound which gives a fragment at $m/z = 124[M + H]^+$ is:

(A)	
(B)	
(C)	
(D)	

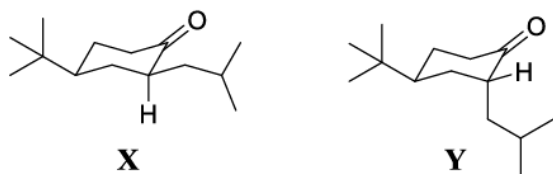
Q.13. The major product formed in the given reaction is



14. The major product formed when the *o*-(Me₃Si)-aryl triflate (a Kobayashi benzyne precursor) is treated with Ph-substituted cyclohexene in the presence of CsF in CH₃CN at r.t. is (A)–(D) as shown in the figure.

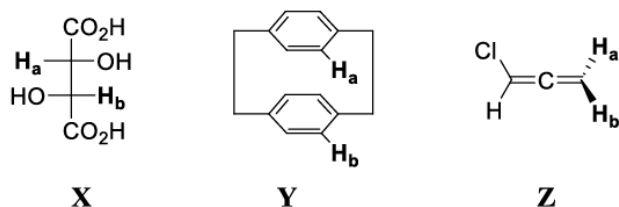


15. On irradiation using UV light (> 300 nm), compounds X and Y predominantly undergo which photochemical pathway? (Structures as shown in the figure)



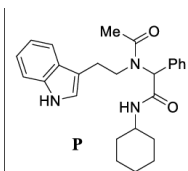
- (A) X: Norrish type I reaction and Y: Norrish type II reaction
 (B) X: Norrish type II reaction and Y: Norrish type I reaction
 (C) Both X and Y: Norrish type I reaction
 (D) Both X and Y: Norrish type II reaction

16. The topicity relationship of H_a and H_b in X, Y and Z (as drawn in the figure) are, respectively,



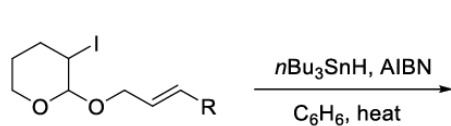
- (A) Diastereotopic, Homotopic and Enantiotopic
 (B) Homotopic, Enantiotopic and Enantiotopic
 (C) Homotopic, Homotopic and Enantiotopic
 (D) Diastereotopic, Enantiotopic and Homotopic

Q.17 Compound P was prepared based on a four-component reaction at room temperature in methanol. The required starting materials for the synthesis are (structure of P shown).



- (A) > ; PhCHO ; MeCO₂H ; >
- (B) > ; PhCHO ; MeCO₂H ; >
- (C) > ; PhCH₂NH₂ ; MeCO₂H ; >
- (D) > ; PhCH₂NH₂ ; MeCO₂H ; >

Q.18. The major product formed in the following reaction is $n\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH}$, AIBN, C_6H_6 , heat



- (A)
- (B)
- (C)
- (D)

Q.19 The reaction of Ph_3PCl_2 with PhNH_2 primarily produces

- (A) $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}=\text{NPh}$
 - (B) $\text{PhP}=\text{NPh}$
 - (C) $\text{PhCl}_2\text{P}=\text{NPh}$
 - (D) $\text{Ph}_2\text{ClP}=\text{NPh}$
-

Q.20. Formation of $[\text{M}(\text{en})_3]^{2+}$ from $[\text{M}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$ and three equivalents of ethylenediamine (en) is LEAST favored when M is

- (A) Co
 - (B) Ni
 - (C) Cu
 - (D) Fe
-

Q.21. Wacker oxidation of alkenes is catalyzed by a combination of

- (A) Pd(II) and Cu(II)
 - (B) Co(II) and Cu(II)
 - (C) Pd(II) and Ni(II)
 - (D) Pd(II) and Co(II)
-

Q.22 For the conversion of $[\text{Pt}(\text{L})\text{Cl}_3]^-$ to *trans*- $[\text{Pt}(\text{L})\text{Cl}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$, the *trans*-effect is LEAST when the ligand L is

- (A) H_2O
 - (B) NH_3
 - (C) DMSO
 - (D) C_2H_4
-

Q.23. The tetracoordinated copper center in the oxidized and reduced forms of plastocyanin exhibits longest bond with

- (A) cysteine-S and methionine-S, respectively
 - (B) methionine-S and cysteine-S, respectively
 - (C) cysteine-S and cysteine-S, respectively
 - (D) methionine-S and methionine-S, respectively
-

Q.24. The packing efficiency (in %) of spheres for a body-centered cubic (bcc) lattice is approximately

- (A) 74
 - (B) 68
 - (C) 60
 - (D) 52
-

Q.25 The magnitudes of CFSE in $[M(H_2O)_6]^{n+}$ for Mn and Fe ions satisfy the relations

- (A) $Mn^{2+} < Mn^{3+}$ and $Fe^{2+} < Fe^{3+}$
 - (B) $Mn^{2+} > Mn^{3+}$ and $Fe^{2+} > Fe^{3+}$
 - (C) $Mn^{2+} < Mn^{3+}$ and $Fe^{2+} > Fe^{3+}$
 - (D) $Mn^{2+} > Mn^{3+}$ and $Fe^{2+} < Fe^{3+}$
-

Q.26. The organometallic catalyst for the following transformation is (intramolecular olefin closure giving a cyclohexene and ethylene, i.e., ring-closing metathesis):

- (A) Grubbs' catalyst $RuCl_2(=CHPh)(PCy_3)_2$
 - (B) Wilkinson's catalyst $RhCl(PPh_3)_3$
 - (C) $HCo(CO)_4$ (cobalt carbonyl hydride)
 - (D) $[RhI(CO)_2]^-$ (rhodium carbonyl iodide)
-

Q.27. Point group of naphthalene ($C_{10}H_8$) is

- (A) D_{2d}
 - (B) D_{2h}
 - (C) D_{3d}
 - (D) D_{3h}
-

Q.28. The INCORRECT statement is

- (A) Zero-point energy of a quantum mechanical harmonic oscillator of frequency ν is $\frac{h\nu}{2}$
 - (B) Energy level of a quantum mechanical rigid rotor is inversely proportional to its moment of inertia
 - (C) The time independent Schrödinger equation for Li^{2+} **cannot** be solved exactly
 - (D) Total angular momentum of an atomic system is equal to the sum of orbital angular momentum and spin angular momentum
-

Q.29 For an ideal gas, the molecular partition function in the canonical ensemble, that is proportional to the system volume (V), is the

- (A) vibrational partition function
- (B) rotational partition function
- (C) electronic partition function
- (D) translational partition function

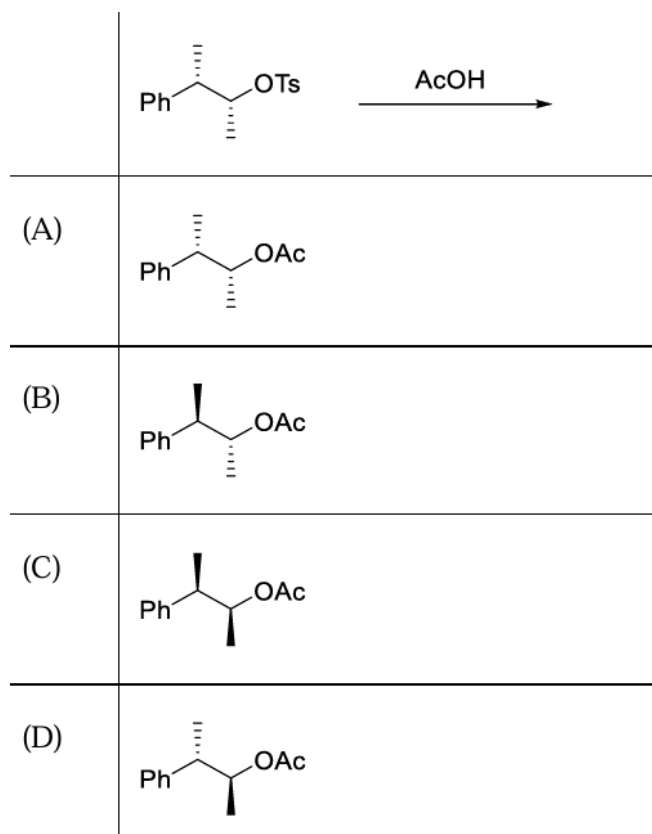
Q.30 Assertion (S): The total angular momentum for light atoms (low atomic number) is obtained by Russell–Saunders coupling, whereas jj -coupling is used for heavy atoms (high atomic number).

Reasoning (R): The spin–orbit interactions are weak in light atoms (low atomic number) and strong in heavy atoms (high atomic number).

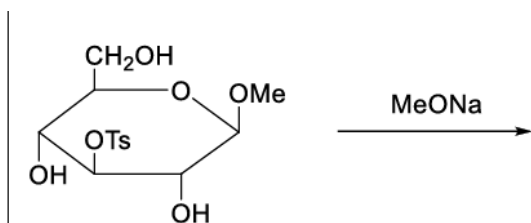
The correct option is

- (A) S and R are true; and R is the correct reason for S
- (B) S and R are true; but R is NOT the correct reason for S
- (C) S is true but R is false
- (D) S is false but R is true

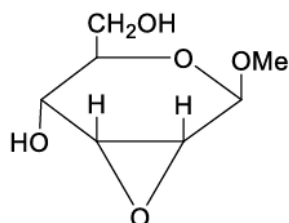
Q.31. The acetolysis product(s) of the given reaction (solvolysis of the benzylic tosylate in AcOH) is(are)



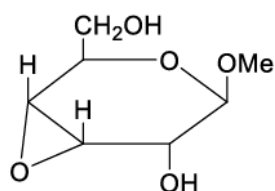
Q.32. Product(s) formed in the given reaction is(are):



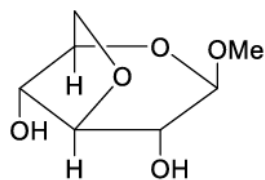
(A)



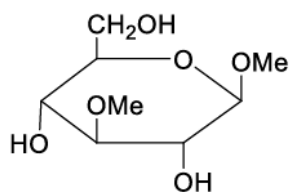
(B)



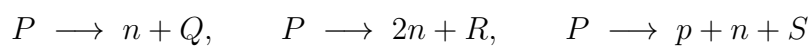
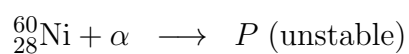
(C)



(D)



Q.33 The choice(s) that correctly identify radioisotopes (P, Q, R, S) shown in the following nuclear reaction is(are):



(A) $P = {}^{64}_{30}\text{Zn}$

- (B) $Q = {}^{63}_{30}\text{Zn}$
 (C) $R = {}^{62}_{29}\text{Cu}$
 (D) $S = {}^{62}_{29}\text{Cu}$

Q.34. For the Lindemann–Hinshelwood mechanism of gas phase unimolecular reactions, the true statement(s) is(are)

- (A) Only molecules with three or more atoms can follow the Lindemann–Hinshelwood mechanism
 (B) Lindemann–Hinshelwood mechanism involves bimolecular elementary steps
 (C) The overall reaction is of second order at low pressure
 (D) The overall reaction is of second order at high pressure

Q.35. The calculated magnetic moment of $[\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_5]^{2-}$ is _____ BM (rounded off to two decimal places).

(Given: atomic number of Ce is 58)

Q.36 A compound, $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2$, has the following spectral data;

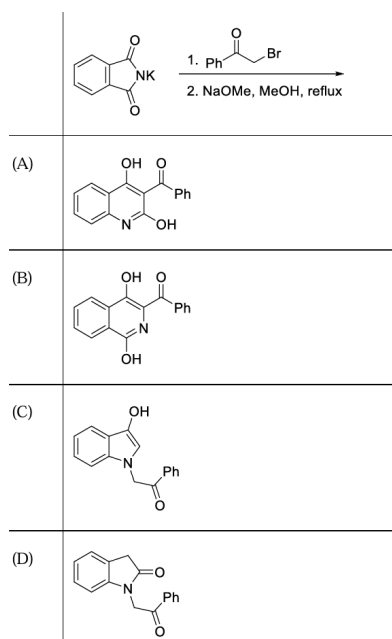
^1H NMR (ppm): 9.16 (s), 6.89 (d, $J = 8$ Hz), 6.64 (d, $J = 8$ Hz), 1.53 (s)

^{13}C NMR (ppm): 154.7, 140.9, 127.1, 114.4, 40.7, 30.7

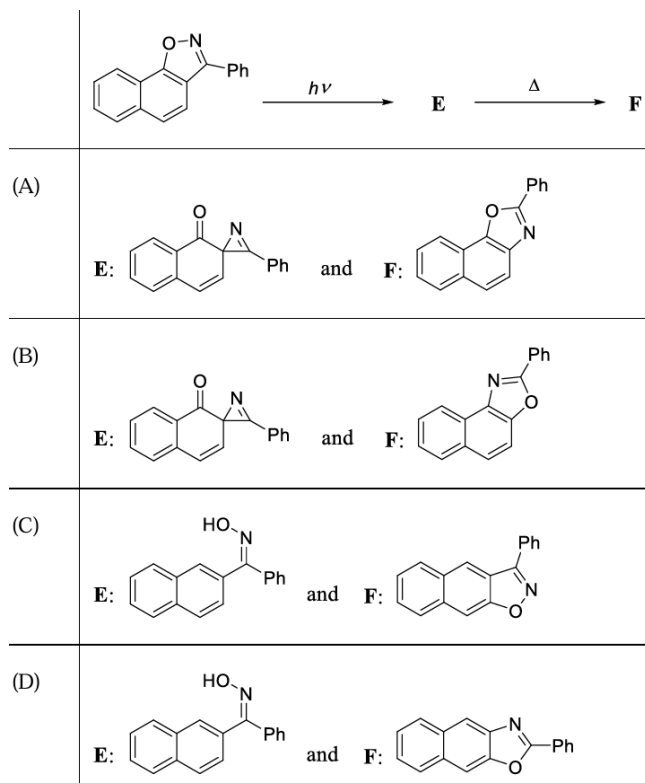
The structure of the compound is

- | | |
|-----|--|
| (A) | |
| (B) | |
| (C) | |
| (D) | |

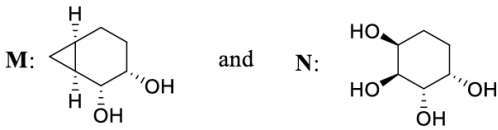
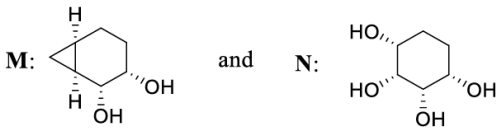
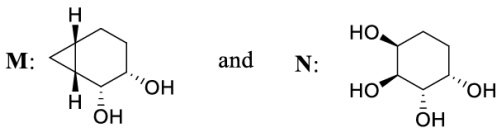
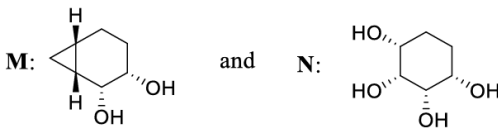
Q.37. The major product formed in the given reaction sequence is



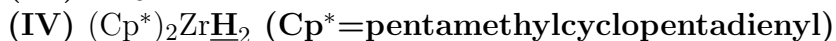
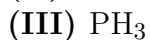
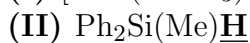
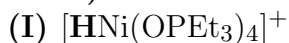
Q.38. E and F in the given reaction scheme are determined for the photolysis ($h\nu$) of the fused N–O heterocycle bearing an N-phenyl group, followed by thermolysis (Δ).



Q.39 M and N in the given reaction scheme are (Simmons–Smith on the alkene, then OsO₄/NMO):

(A)	
(B)	
(C)	
(D)	

Q.40. In the ¹H NMR spectrum, multiplicity of the signal (**bold and underlined H atom**) in the following species is



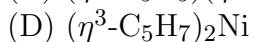
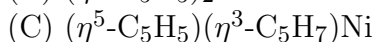
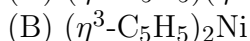
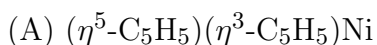
(A) I- pentet, II- quartet, III- doublet and IV- singlet

(B) I- pentet, II- singlet, III- singlet and IV- doublet

(C) I- triplet, II- triplet, III- doublet and IV- doublet

(D) I- singlet, II- quartet, III- singlet and IV- singlet

Q.41. The major product obtained by the treatment of (η⁵-C₅H₅)₂Ni with Na/Hg in ethanol is



Q.42. The number of shared corners of the constituent SiO_4 units in orthosilicate, pyrosilicate, cyclic silicate and sheet silicate, respectively, are

- (A) 0, 1, 2 and 3
 - (B) 2, 3, 0 and 1
 - (C) 0, 3, 1 and 2
 - (D) 1, 2, 3 and 0
-

Q.43. Concentration of Q in a consecutive reaction $P \xrightarrow{k_1} Q \xrightarrow{k_2} R$ is given by $[Q] = \frac{k_1[P]_0}{k_2 - k_1} (e^{-k_1 t} - e^{-k_2 t})$. If $k_2 = 25 \text{ s}^{-1}$, the value of k_1 that leads to the *longest waiting time* for Q to reach its maximum is

- (A) $k_1 = 20 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 - (B) $k_1 = 25 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 - (C) $k_1 = 30 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 - (D) $k_1 = 35 \text{ s}^{-1}$
-

Q.44 The wavefunction for Be^{3+} in a certain state is given by $\psi = N e^{-\left(\frac{4}{a_0}\right)r}$, where N is the normalization constant, r is the distance of electron from the nucleus and a_0 is the Bohr radius. The most probable distance of the electron from the nucleus in this state is

- (A) $4a_0$
 - (B) $\frac{a_0}{4}$
 - (C) $8a_0$
 - (D) $\frac{a_0}{8}$
-

Q.45. Match the following

Column I

(P) Associated Legendre polynomials

(Q) Hermite polynomials

(R) Associated Laguerre polynomials

(S) Trigonometric functions

(A) P→III, Q→I, R→IV, S→II

(B) P→III, Q→IV, R→II, S→I

(C) P→IV, Q→I, R→III, S→II

(D) P→II, Q→III, R→IV, S→I

Column II

(I) Harmonic oscillator

(II) Particle in a box model

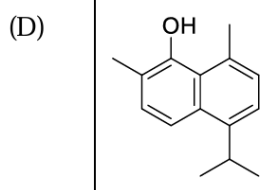
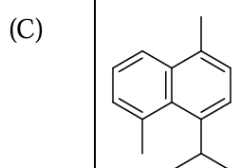
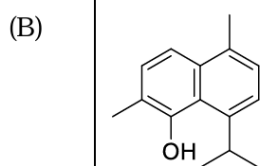
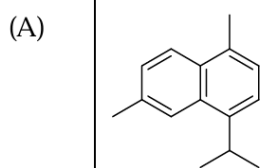
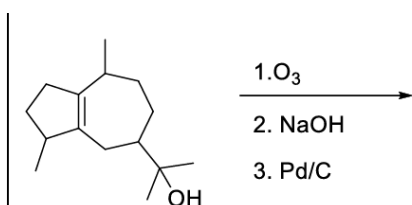
(III) Angular part of H atom

(IV) Radial part of H atom

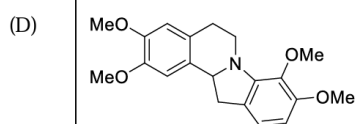
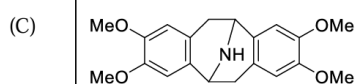
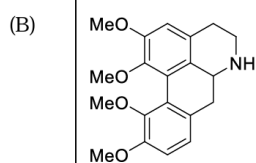
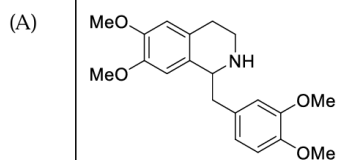
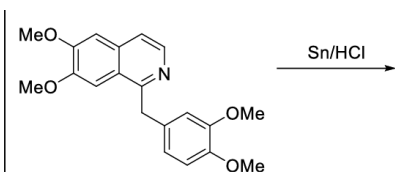
Q.46. In the scheme $P_2 \xrightarrow{k_1} I_a \xrightarrow{k_2} 2Q \xrightarrow{k_2} R$, I_a represents the intensity of light *absorbed*. Assuming the quantum yield of the first step is one, the steady-state concentration of Q is given by

- (A) $\sqrt{\frac{I_a}{k_1 + k_2}}$
 (B) $\sqrt{\frac{I_a[P_2]}{k_1 + k_2}}$
 (C) $\frac{I_a}{k_1 + k_2}$
 (D) $\frac{I_a[P_2]}{k_1 + k_2}$

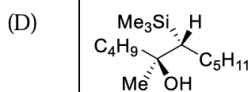
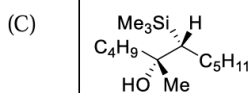
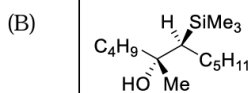
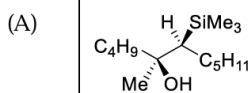
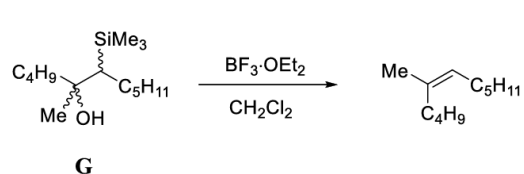
Q.47 Product(s) formed in the given reaction sequence is(are)



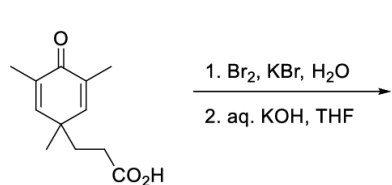
Q.48. Product(s) formed in the reaction below is(are)



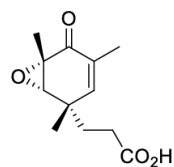
Q.49 The stereoisomer(s) of G giving the depicted product is(are):



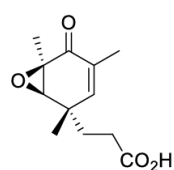
Q.50. Product(s) formed in the given reaction sequence is(are)



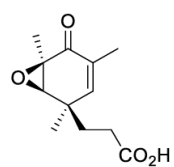
(A)



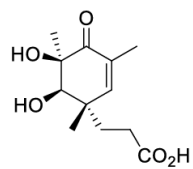
(B)



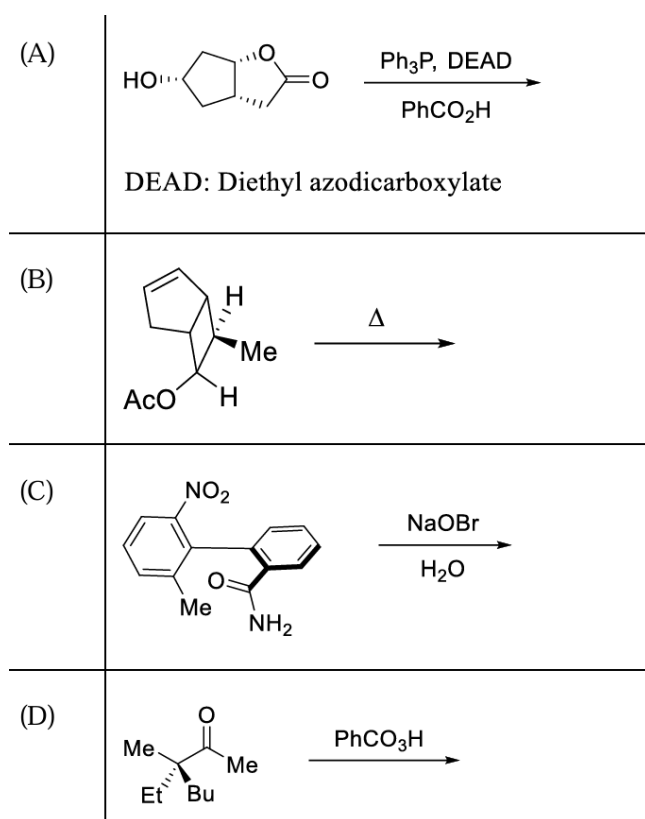
(C)



(D)



Q.51. The reaction(s) in which *inversion of configuration* occur(s) is(are)



Q.52 The correct statement(s) regarding myoglobin (Mb) and haemoglobin (Hb) is(are)

- (A) At low partial pressure of O_2 (e.g., 5 kPa), the O_2 affinity of Hb lowers upon lowering the pH
- (B) Binding of the first O_2 molecule to Hb results in lower affinity for the binding of second O_2 molecule
- (C) Metal center in deoxy-Mb is low-spin whereas it is high-spin in the case of oxy-Mb
- (D) One end of O_2 binds to the metal center in oxy-Mb and the other end of the bound O_2 is H-bonded with imidazole-NH of a distal histidine

Q.53 The correct statement(s) regarding $Co_2(CO)_8$ is(are)

- (A) It reacts with Na to give $Na[Co(CO)_4]$
- (B) It contains three bridging carbonyls
- (C) It can be prepared by reductive carbonylation of $Co(OAc)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$
- (D) Two isomers exist in hexane solution

Q.54. The compound(s) having $[Xe]4f^1$ configuration is(are)
(Given the atomic numbers Ce:58, Lu:71, Pr:59 and Nd:60)

- (A) $\text{Na}_3[\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_6]$
- (B) $\text{Na}_3[\text{LuCl}_6]$
- (C) PrO_2
- (D) $\text{Nd}(\text{NR}_2)_3$ ($\text{R} = \text{SiMe}_3$)

Q.55. The correct statement(s) for XeF_2 is(are)

- (A) Its bonding is best explained by classical 2-centered-2-electron bonds
- (B) Its bonding is best explained by a non-classical 3-centered-4-electron bond
- (C) It contains nine lone pairs of electrons
- (D) Its point group is $D_{\infty h}$

Q.56. For the non-dissociative adsorption of a gas on solid,

(i) the Freundlich isotherm is given by $\theta = k p^{1/n}$ (where θ is surface coverage, p pressure, k, n empirical constants); and

(ii) the BET isotherm is given by $\frac{p}{p^* - p} = \frac{\theta}{c} + \theta(c - 1) \left(\frac{p}{p^*} \right)$

(where p^* and c are empirical constants, and $p < p^*$).

The correct statement(s) is(are)

- (A) At low surface coverage, the Langmuir isotherm reduces to the Freundlich isotherm with $n = 1$
- (B) At high surface coverage, the Langmuir isotherm reduces to the Freundlich isotherm with $n = \infty$
- (C) At very low pressure ($p \ll p^*$), the BET isotherm reduces to the Langmuir isotherm
- (D) At very high pressure ($p \rightarrow p^*$), the BET isotherm reduces to the Langmuir isotherm

Q.57 Two different enzyme catalysis reactions I and II have identical Y-intercepts for the Lineweaver–Burke plots. The slope for reaction I is twice that of reaction II. If the initial concentrations of enzymes in I and II are same, the correct statement(s) is(are)

$$\frac{1}{v} = \frac{1}{v_{\max}} + \frac{K_M}{v_{\max}} \frac{1}{[S]}$$

- (A) Reactions I and II have same turn over number
- (B) Michaelis–Menten constants for reactions I and II are identical
- (C) Michaelis–Menten constant for reaction I is twice than that of reaction II
- (D) The rates of the elementary steps for reactions I and II are identical

Q.58 The enthalpy change for the exothermic reaction between BeI_2 and HgF_2 is _____ kJ mol^{-1} (rounded off to the nearest integer).

(Given bond dissociation energies in kJ mol^{-1} : $\text{Be-F} = 632$, $\text{Be-I} = 289$, $\text{Hg-F} = 268$, $\text{Hg-I} = 145$)

Q.59. Number of carbon atoms connected to the metal center in $[\text{W}(\text{C}_{60})(\text{CO})_5]$ is ____ (rounded off to the nearest integer).

(Given: atomic number of W = 74)

Q.60. Two-component solid–liquid system of naphthalene–benzene forms a simple eutectic mixture. Assuming an ideal solution, the mole fraction of naphthalene in benzene at 300 K and 1 bar is _____ (rounded off to two decimal places).

(Given: freezing point T_{fp} and enthalpy of fusion ΔH_{fus} of naphthalene are 353 K and $19.28 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$, respectively; $R = 8.31 \text{ J K}^{-1}\text{mol}^{-1}$)

Q.61 The intrinsic viscosity of a sample of polystyrene in toluene is $84 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$ at 30°C . It follows the Mark–Houwink equation with empirical constants $K = 1.05 \times 10^{-2} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$ and $a = 0.75$. The molecular weight of the polymer is _____ $\times 10^3 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ (rounded off to the nearest integer).

Q.62. According to Debye–Hückel limiting law, the mean molal activity coefficient for $0.87 \text{ g K}_2\text{SO}_4$ (molar mass = 174 g mol^{-1}) in 1 kg of water at 25°C is ____ (rounded off to two decimal places).

Q.63. A solution is prepared by dissolving 128 g of naphthalene (C_{10}H_8) in 780 g of benzene (C_6H_6). The vapor pressure of pure benzene is 12.6 kPa at 25°C . Assuming that naphthalene in benzene is an ideal solution, the partial vapor pressure of benzene is _____ kPa (rounded off to two decimal places).

Q.64 For the galvanic cell: $\text{H}_2(\text{g}) \text{ — } \text{HCl}(\text{aq}) \text{ — } \text{Cl}_2(\text{g})$, the standard electromotive force is

$$E^0 = 1.73 - (1.25 \times 10^{-3})T + (1.00 \times 10^{-6})T^2 \quad (\text{V, with } T \text{ in K}).$$

Find the standard enthalpy change $\Delta_r H^0$ at 300 K (kJ mol^{-1}). Assume the cell reaction is written per mole of HCl, i.e., $\frac{1}{2}\text{H}_2 + \frac{1}{2}\text{Cl}_2 \rightarrow \text{HCl}(\text{aq})$ so that $n = 1$. (Given $F = 96500 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$).

Q.65. A solution of three non-interacting compounds P, Q, and R is taken in a cuvette of 1 cm path length. Their concentrations are $[P] = 1 \times 10^{-6}$ M, $[Q] = 2 \times 10^{-6}$ M, $[R] = 3 \times 10^{-6}$ M and the molar extinction coefficients at 300 nm are $\varepsilon_P = 1 \times 10^5$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹, $\varepsilon_Q = 2 \times 10^5$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹ and $\varepsilon_R = 3 \times 10^5$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹. The % transmittance at 300 nm is ----- (rounded off to two decimal places)
