

General information about practical exams

Centres must follow the guidance on science practical exams given in the *Cambridge Handbook*.

Safety

Supervisors must follow national and local regulations relating to safety and first aid.

Only those procedures described in the question paper should be attempted.

Supervisors must inform candidates that materials and apparatus used in the exam should be treated with caution. Suitable eye protection should be used where necessary.

The following hazard codes are used in these confidential instructions, where relevant:

C	corrosive	MH	moderate hazard
HH	health hazard	T	acutely toxic
F	flammable	O	oxidising
N	hazardous to the aquatic environment		

Hazard data sheets relating to substances used in this exam should be available from your chemical supplier.

Before the exam

- The packets containing the question papers must **not** be opened before the exam.
- It is assumed that standard school laboratory facilities, as indicated in the *Guide to Planning Practical Science*, will be available.
- Spare materials and apparatus for the tasks set must be available for candidates, if required.

During the exam

- It must be made clear to candidates at the start of the exam that they may request spare materials and apparatus for the tasks set.
- Where specified, the supervisor **must** perform the experiments and record the results as instructed. This must be done **out of sight** of the candidates, using the same materials and apparatus as the candidates.
- Any assistance provided to candidates must be recorded in the supervisor's report.
- If any materials or apparatus need to be replaced, for example, in the event of breakage or loss, this must be recorded in the supervisor's report.

After the exam

- The supervisor must complete a report for each practical session held and each laboratory used.
- Each packet of scripts returned to Cambridge International must contain the following items:
 - the scripts of the candidates specified on the bar code label provided
 - the supervisor's results relevant to these candidates
 - the supervisor's reports relevant to these candidates
 - seating plans for each practical session, referring to each candidate by candidate number
 - the attendance register.

Specific information for this practical exam

During the exam, the supervisor (NOT the invigilator) must do the experiments in Questions 1, 3 and 4 and record the results on a spare copy of the question paper, clearly labelled 'supervisor's results'.

For Question 1

Each candidate will require:

- (i) half of an apple, presented on a white tile, labelled **A** (see note 1)
- (ii) 30 cm ruler graduated in mm
- (iii) knife or scalpel
- (iv) two test-tubes, approximately 125 mm × 15 mm, and a means to support them
- (v) iodine solution, labelled **iodine solution**, and dropping pipette
- [MH] (vi) Benedict's solution, labelled **Benedict's solution**, and dropping pipette
- (vii) access to a water bath at a temperature of approximately 80 °C.

Notes

1. The apple should be prepared by cutting a whole apple vertically. This should be done as close as possible to the start of the exam. The half of the apple should be covered with plastic film to prevent drying. Label the apple half, **A**, and present it on a white tile.

For Question 2

No apparatus is required for this question.

For Question 3

Each candidate will require:

- [F] (i) 2 g magnesium powder labelled **2 g magnesium**
- [F] [N] (ii) 2 g zinc powder labelled **2 g zinc**
- [C] [N] (iii) 75 cm³ aqueous copper(II) sulfate, 0.5 mol dm⁻³ labelled **aqueous copper(II) sulfate**
 - (iv) small glass beaker
 - (v) -10 to 110 °C thermometer, with 1 °C graduations, suitable for stirring
 - (vi) stop-clock
 - (vii) 25 cm³ or 50 cm³ measuring cylinder
 - (viii) waste container labelled **waste**. Each candidate will generate approximately 150 cm³ of waste solution
 - (ix) access to distilled water.

For Question 4

Each candidate will require:

- (i) 250 cm³ glass beaker
- (ii) a dry test-tube (approximately 125 mm × 15 mm)
- (iii) 30 cm ruler graduated in mm
- (iv) 100 cm³ measuring cylinder
- (v) approximately 100 cm³ of 20% sodium chloride solution at room temperature in a beaker labelled **Liquid L**
- (vi) access to a balance suitable for measuring to an accuracy of 0.01 g.

Notes

1. At changeover, empty the measuring cylinder and replace the test-tube with a dry test-tube.

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Supervisor's report

Syllabus and component number

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Centre number

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Centre name

Time of the practical session

Laboratory name/number

Give details of any difficulties experienced by the centre or by candidates (include the relevant candidate names and candidate numbers).

You must include:

- any difficulties experienced by the centre in the preparation of materials
- any difficulties experienced by candidates, e.g. due to faulty materials or apparatus
- any specific assistance given to candidates.

Space for supervisor to record results, if relevant, e.g. temperature of the laboratory; results for Question 1.

Declaration

- 1 Each packet that I am returning to Cambridge International contains the following items:
 - the scripts of the candidates specified on the bar code label provided
 - the supervisor's results relevant to these candidates
 - the supervisor's reports relevant to these candidates
 - seating plans for each practical session, referring to each candidate by candidate number
 - the attendance register
- 2 Where the practical exam has taken place in more than one practical session, I have clearly labelled the supervisor's results, supervisor's reports and seating plans with the time and laboratory name/number for each practical session.
- 3 I have included details of difficulties relating to each practical session experienced by the centre or by candidates.
- 4 I have reported any other adverse circumstances affecting candidates, e.g. illness, bereavement or temporary injury, directly to Cambridge International on a *special consideration form*.

Signed (supervisor)

Name (in block capitals)