

Paper 3 Section A Data Response (6)

Paracetamol, an over the counter pain-killer, can be synthesised from phenol in three separate steps.

HO NaNO3 HO NO2 + HO 36% yield
$$O_2N$$

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

(a) (i) In Step 1 phenol is converted into a mixture of 4-nitrophenol and 2-nitrophenol. Identify the mechanism of this reaction by stating its name. [1]



- (ii) The two products from Step 1 can easily be separated by a process known as steam distillation. Suggest why the boiling point of 2-nitrophenol (216 °C) is considerably lower than the boiling point of 4-nitrophenol (279 °C). [2]
- (b) (i) In Step 2 the 4-nitrophenol is converted into 4-aminophenol. Identify the type of chemical reaction that occurs in this step. [1]
 - (II) 4-aminophenol is soluble in aqueous solutions of strong acids.

 Deduce the structural formula of the product formed when 4-aminophenol dissolves in dilute hydrochloric acid. [1]
- (c) The structural formula of ethanoic anhydride is:

- (i) Deduce the structural formula of the product, other than paracetamol, formed in Step 3. [1]
- (ii) Other than hydroxyl and phenyl, state the name of a functional group present in paracetamol. [1]
- (iii) 10.00 g of phenol produced 2.47 g of paracetamol. Assuming the percentage yields of Steps 1 and 2 are as listed, calculate the percentage yield for Step 3. [3]