

# Structure + Bonding Carbon

## Mark Scheme

Level	GCSE (9-1)
Subject	Combined Science: Trilogy - Chemistry
Exam Board	AQA
Topic	5.2 Bonding Structure + Props Matter
Sub-Topic	Structure + Bonding Carbon
Difficulty Level	Gold Level
Booklet	Mark Scheme

Time Allowed: 50 minutes

Score: /50

Percentage: /100

Grade Boundaries:

### M1. Level 3 (5–6 marks):

A detailed and coherent explanation applying knowledge of the properties of nanotubes, with clear and logical links to reasons why carbon nanotubes have these properties

### Level 2 (3–4 marks):

Description contains relevant statements that demonstrate clear knowledge of the properties of nanotubes. Attempt made to link properties to explanation of why these properties occur, but logic may be unclear

### Level 1 (1–2 marks):

Simple relevant statements of the properties of nanotubes, demonstrating knowledge, but no linking to an explanation of why these properties occur.

### 0 marks:

No relevant content.

### Indicative content

properties:

- high tensile strength
- high electrical / thermal conductivity
- high melting point

explanations:

- nanotubes are fullerenes based on hexagonal rings of carbon atoms
- which means that each carbon forms three covalent bonds with three other carbon atoms
- covalent bonds are strong **or** need a lot of energy to break them
- so nanotubes are strong / have high tensile strength
- and have a high melting point
- the structure means that one electron from each carbon atom is delocalised
- as in metals and graphite, the delocalised electrons can move throughout the structure
- allowing the carbon nanotube / fullerene to conduct thermal energy and electricity

[6]

M2. (a) (i) ionic / molecules / metallic / (inter)molecular = max 2

because graphene / it has a giant structure / lattice / macromolecular  
accept all / every / each atom is bonded to 3 other atoms

1

because graphene / it has covalent bonds / is covalent

1

because in graphene / the bonds are strong **or**  
a lot of energy needed / hard to break the bonds

1

(ii) there are delocalised / free electrons

1

because one (delocalised / free) electron per atom linked to first marking point  
*accept because three electrons per atom used (in bonding)*  
*accept because one electron per atom not used (in bonding)*

1

(b) opaque (owtte)  
*eg could not see through them*

**or** layers slide  
**or** layers not aligned  
*ignore thick*

1

[6]

**M3. (a) Graphite:**

because the layers (of carbon atoms) in graphite can move / slide  
*it = graphite*

1

this is because there are only weak intermolecular forces **or** weak forces between layers

*accept Van der Waals' forces allow no covalent bonds*

*between layers*

1

### **Diamond:**

however, in diamond, each carbon atom is (strongly / covalently) bonded to 4 others

*allow diamond has three dimensional / tetrahedral structure*

1

so no carbon / atoms able to move / slide

*allow so no layers to slide **or** so diamond is rigid*

1

(b) because graphite has delocalised electrons / sea of electrons

*allow free / mobile / roaming electrons*

1

which can carry charge / current **or** move through the structure

1

however, diamond has no delocalised electrons

*accept however, diamond has all (outer) electrons used in bonding*

1

[7]

**M4.** any **three** from:

*any reference to incorrect bonding = max 2*

- giant structure / lattice / macromolecule
- covalent (bonds)

- bonds are (very) strong  
*allow bonds difficult to break*  
**or** takes a lot of energy to break bonds
- each atom / carbon joined to four others  
*accept each atom / carbon forms four bonds*

3

[3]

**M5.**      **five** ideas from the following for one mark each

- each carbon / atom joined / bonded to three other carbon / atoms  
**or** each carbon forms 3 bonds
- in layers
- only weak forces (of attraction) / bonds between layers  
*allow weak electrostatic / intermolecular forces /bonds between layers*
- layers / atoms can slide over each other
- one electron on each carbon is not used for bonding
- electrons delocalised **or** electrons free  
*allow 'sea' of electrons*
- electrons carry the charge / current
- giant structure / lattice
- covalent (bonds)
- strong bonds **or** a lot of energy needed to break bonds  
*reference to ionic bonding = **max 4***  
*diagrams could be used:*
  - to show layered structure
  - to show that each carbon is bonded to three other carbon atoms
  - to show giant structure (at least 3 rings required)

[5]

- M6.** (a) made of layers  
of carbon atoms  
weak forces of attraction between layers (owtte) / weak  
vertical bonds i.e.  
candidate refers to the diagram  
layers can slide over each other  
layers peel off  
*each for 1 mark*
- (b) because there are electrons  
which are free (to move)  
reason for free electrons / each carbon atom has 3 covalent bonds  
*each for 1 mark*  
*to max 5*

[5]

- M7.** (a) Quality of written communication: All scientific words used correctly  
(covalent, bonds, atoms)

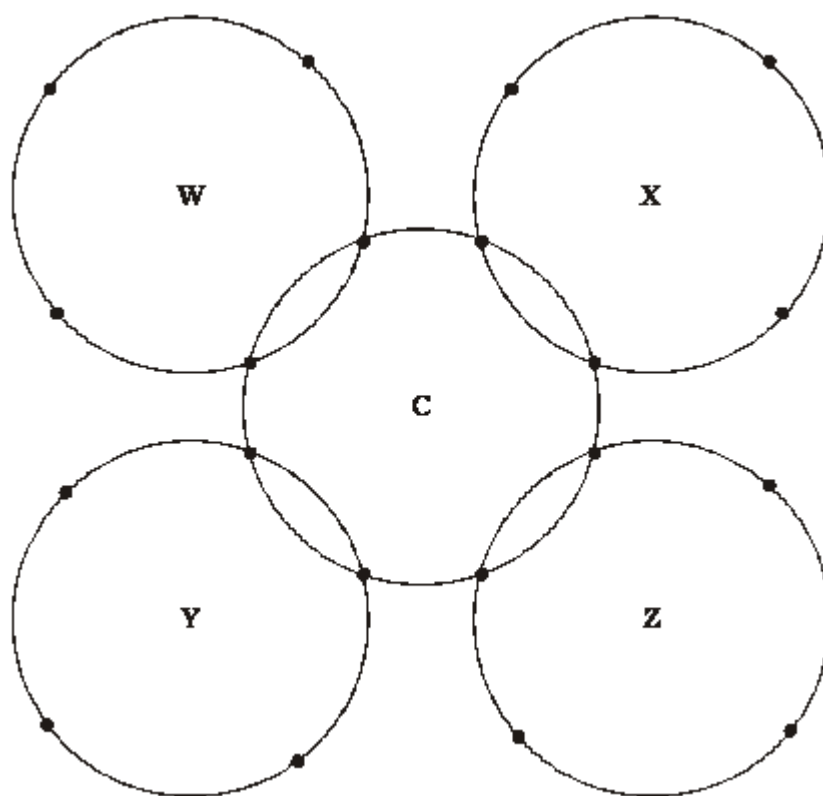
1

any **two** from

- large numbers of covalent bonds  
*allow giant lattice / structure*
- between atoms  
*do not accept between molecules*
- (covalent) bonds strong  
*accept need much energy to break*

2

(b)



each carbon has 4 electrons

1

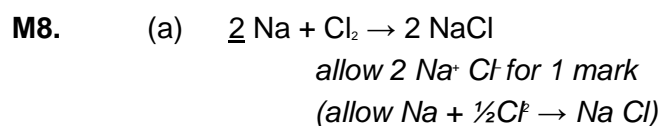
one shared pair

1

four shared pairs

1

[6]



1

(b) (i) *idea that*

- it has strong (attractive) forces/bonds between ions / charged particles  
*for 1 mark*

*(not ‘..it has a rigid structure’- this defines a solid or ‘...particles close together’ – they are in a liquid)*

1

(ii) *ideas that*

- there is increased vibration of ions / particles on heating
- ions have sufficient energy to overcome attractive forces / to break out of the
- rigid structure / to move about

*(must be in terms of increased energy of particles ions)  
each for 1 mark*

2

- (iii) • ions can go to electrodes / ions are free to move  
*for 1 mark  
[do not credit ‘ions carry charges’]*

1

(c) *ideas that*

- it has stronger attractive forces between atoms/particles (*not ‘ions’*)
- each carbon atom forms covalent bonds with neighbouring atoms  
*each for 1 mark*

2

[7]

**M9.** (a) *idea that*

- copper has free electrons / electrons that move throughout the structure  
*gains 1 mark*

**but**

- in copper, electrons from the highest (occupied) energy



level /outer shell, are  
free / can move throughout the structure  
*gains 2 marks*

2

(b) *idea that*

- in graphite, only three bonds are formed by each carbon atom  
*for 1 mark*
- one outer electron (per atom), free to move  
*for 1 mark*
- an electric current is a flow of (free) electrons\*  
*for 1 mark*

(\* this mark to be given in **either** (a) **or** (b) but not in both)

3

[5]