

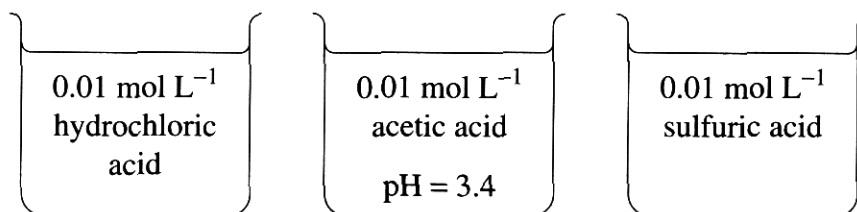
Chemistry

Section I – Part B (continued)

Marks

Question 22 (5 marks)

Solutions of hydrochloric acid, acetic acid and sulfuric acid were prepared. Each of the solutions had the same concentration (0.01 mol L^{-1}). The pH of the acetic acid solution was 3.4.



- (a) Calculate the pH of the hydrochloric acid solution. 1

$$\text{pH} = -\log_{10} [0.01] = 2$$

- (b) Compare the pH of the sulfuric acid solution to the pH of the hydrochloric acid solution. Justify your answer. (No calculations are necessary.) 2

The pH of H_2SO_4 is the same as HCl as both acids are strong acids & have the same concentration, 0.01 mol/L .

\therefore 100% ionisation occurs in both the HCl & H_2SO_4 solutions

\therefore the pH of H_2SO_4 is 2 for 0.01 mol/L

- (c) Explain why the acetic acid solution has a higher pH than the hydrochloric acid solution. 2

Acetic acid is not a strong acid

\therefore complete ionisation does not occur in solution

The degree of ionisation of CH_3COOH is less than that of HCl \therefore acetic acid has a higher pH