

## Question 26 (5 marks)

Water can be described as either 'hard' or 'soft'.

- (a) Describe a test you have used to determine whether a given sample of water is 'hard' or 'soft'. 2

Hard water contains  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ions. So to test for these ions a flame test can be used as  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ions are green in flame. So take a platinum wire (cleaned) and dip in the water, then put in flame. If green flame then it's hard water.

- (b) A sample of hard water contains  $6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$  of magnesium carbonate. 3

Calculate the mass, in mg, of magnesium carbonate in 150 mL of this sample.

$6 \times 10^{-4}$  moles in every litre  
 $\therefore$  there's  $0.15 \times 6 \times 10^{-4}$  moles in 150ml  
 $= 9 \times 10^{-5}$  moles in 150ml  
 $\text{mm } \text{Mg}(\text{CO}_3)_2 = 144.33$   
 $\therefore$  mass of  $\text{Mg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$  in 150ml of  $\text{H}_2\text{O} = 9 \times 10^{-5} \times 144.33 = 0.0129897 \text{ gms}$   
 $\therefore$  in mg  $= 1.29897 \times 10^{-2} = 1.30 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mg of } \text{Mg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$  in 150ml.