Question 21 (3 marks)

A $0.001 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ solution of hydrochloric acid and a $0.056 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ solution of ethanoic acid both have a pH of 3.0.

Why do both solutions have the same pH?

They have the same pH because their [HI] is the same. Hydrochloric acid is strong therefore, even though its concentration is lower than the ethanoic acid, it has the same [HI] as the weak ethanoic acid here, as the HCI ionises completely.