HL Paper 1

Sodium carbonate and hydrochloric acid react according to the equation below.

$$\mathrm{Na_2CO_3(s) + 2HCl(aq) \rightarrow CO_2(g) + 2NaCl(aq) + H_2O(l)}$$

Which conditions will produce the fastest initial rate with 2.0 g of powdered sodium carbonate?

A. $100\ \mathrm{cm^3}$ of $1.0\ \mathrm{mol\,dm^{-3}}$ hydrochloric acid at 323 K

B. $50\ \mathrm{cm^3}$ of $2.0\ \mathrm{mol\,dm^{-3}}$ hydrochloric acid at 323 K

C. $100\ \mathrm{cm^3}$ of $1.0\ \mathrm{mol\,dm^{-3}}$ hydrochloric acid at 348 K

D. $50\ \mathrm{cm^3}$ of $2.0\ \mathrm{mol\,dm^{-3}}$ hydrochloric acid at 348 K

Markscheme

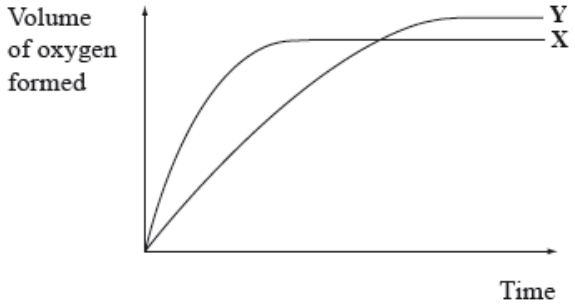
D

Examiners report

[N/A]

Curve **X** on the graph below shows the volume of oxygen formed during the catalytic decomposition of a $1.0\ \mathrm{mol\,dm^{-3}}$ solution of hydrogen peroxide.

$$\mathrm{2H_2O_2(aq) \rightarrow O_2(g) + 2H_2O(l)}$$



Which change would produce the curve **Y**?

A. Adding water

B. Adding some 0.1 mol dm–3 hydrogen peroxide solution

C. Using a different catalyst

D. Lowering the temperature

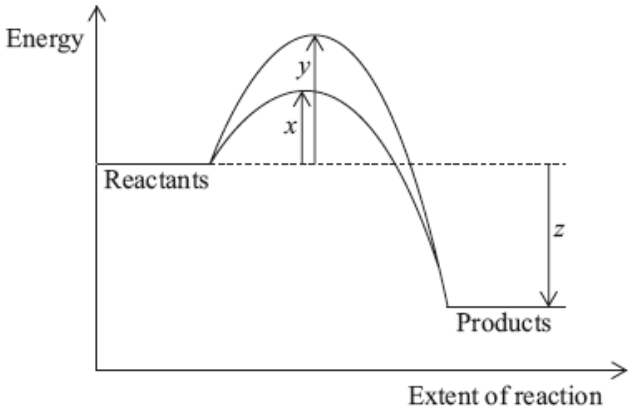
Markscheme

B

Examiners report

Two respondents stated that this question was somewhat misleading. The question was one of the more challenging questions on the paper but 51.70% of candidates did get B. as the correct answer.

The diagram below shows the energy changes for a reaction with and without a catalyst. Which symbols represent the activation energy, E_a, and the enthalpy change, ΔH, for the reaction with a catalyst?



	E_a (with a catalyst)	ΔH
A.	x	z
B.	y	z
C.	z	x
D.	$y - x$	z

Markscheme

A

Examiners report

[N/A]

Which statements explain why a catalyst is used in the Contact process (shown below)?

$$SO_2(g) + \frac{1}{2}O_2(g) \rightleftharpoons SO_3(g)$$

I. A catalyst lowers the activation energy.

II. A catalyst moves the position of equilibrium towards the product.

III. A catalyst allows the same rate to be achieved at a lower temperature.

A. I and II only

B. I and III only

C. II and III only

D. I, II and III

Markscheme

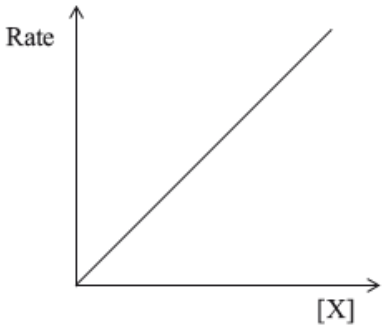
B

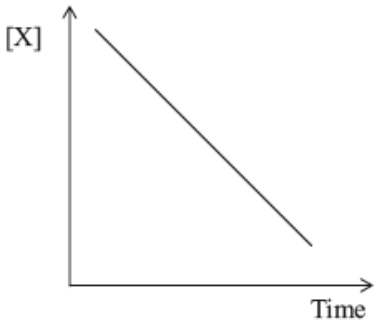
Examiners report

There were a number of comments suggesting that the sentence “A catalyst creates a new reaction pathway of lower activation energy.” should have been used. The examiners accept the rebuke. Nevertheless, nearly 85% of the candidates saw past the poor wording and gave B as the correct answer.

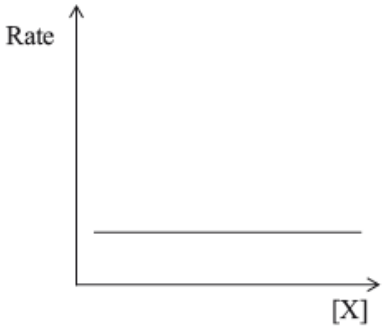
Which pair of graphs shows a decomposition reaction of X that obeys first-order kinetics?

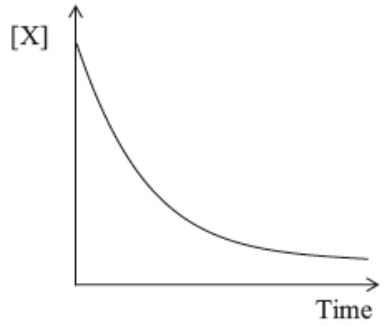
A.



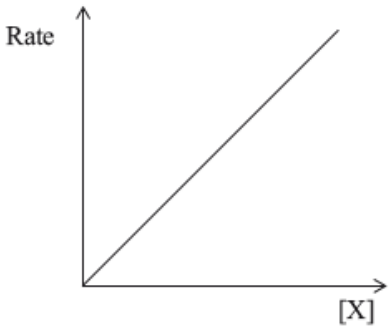


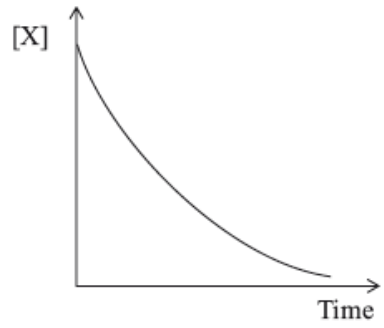
B.



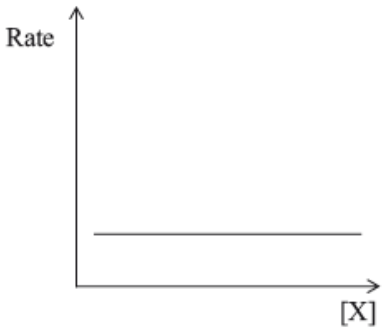


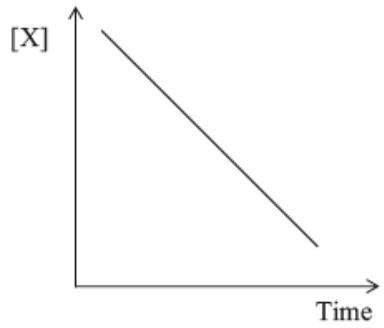
C.





D.





Markscheme

C

Examiners report

[N/A]