

HIGHERS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of Higher Chemistry

CHEMISTRY
SCIENCES

CfE
HIGHER

4
UNITS

CHEMICAL CHANGES AND STRUCTURE
RESEARCHING CHEMISTRY
NATURE'S CHEMISTRY
CHEMISTRY IN SOCIETY

+
COURSE
ASSESSMENT

ASSIGNMENT + QUESTION PAPER



Skills

Learners will be able to:

- apply knowledge and understanding of chemistry
- understand chemistry's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of chemistry, including the impact of these on society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation, in a chemistry context
- use technology, equipment and materials, safely, in practical scientific activities, including using risk assessments
- develop planning skills
- problem-solve in a chemistry context
- use and understand scientific literacy to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices



Opportunities for Learners

Learners will be able to:

- study matter and its interactions
- find out about and appreciate the application of chemistry in everyday contexts
- enjoy practical and experiential learning opportunities
- plan and design experiments/practical investigations
- process information, make predictions, and draw valid conclusions
- evaluate experiments/practical investigations



Assessment

- To gain Higher Chemistry, learners must pass the four Units and the Course Assessment (Assignment and Question Paper for 120 marks)
- Units are assessed as pass or fail by the school/centre and are quality assured by the SQA. Achievement of Units is recorded on the learner's qualifications certificate
- The SQA has provided examples of Unit assessments that teachers/lecturers can use as they are, or adapt to suit the needs of their learners
- The Course Assessment consists of an Assignment (20 marks) and a Question Paper (exam for 100 marks) which is in two sections (see below). These are marked externally by the SQA
- Higher Chemistry is graded from A to D or as No Award.



Question Paper Section 1: Multiple choice questions (20 marks) 2 hours 30 minutes
Section 2: Restricted and extended response questions (80 marks) 100 marks

Specimen Paper www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/ChemistrySQPH.pdf

Assignment An investigation into a relevant chemistry topic, with findings 20 marks
written up under timed conditions.



Progression Higher courses can stand alone or follow on from National 5 qualifications and may lead to Advanced Highers, the Scottish Baccalaureate and a range of qualifications within Further and Higher Education.



For course information, specimen question papers and past paper guidance visit:

Higher Chemistry: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47913.html

[Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile](#)

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf

[Further Information for Parents and Learners](#) Information on assessment, skills, progression, revision resources and summaries of National Qualifications

www.parentforumsotland.org



the National Parent
Forum of Scotland

www.parentforumsotland.org
enquiries@parentforumsotland.org

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