

Answers to examination-style questions

Answers	Marks	Examiner's tips
1 CH ₃ Br 94 and 96 ∴ ⁷⁹ Br and ⁸¹ Br ∴ CH ₂ Br ₂ has 3 peaks relative abundances: 1 : 2 : 1 m/z values: 172 174 176	1 1 1	Remember that some elements have isotopes, which means their mass numbers are different.
2 (a) absorption X: (O–H) (alcohols)	1	Penalise acid or missing 'alcohol'.
absorption Y: C=O	1	Allow carbonyl.
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Н О	Since the OH peak is an alcohol OH peak (which has a slightly higher wavenumber than an acid OH) you cannot have a carboxylic acid for the answer.
3 3 peaks $m/z = 126$, 128 and 130	1 2	You can have both Cl's as 35, both as 37, or one of each type in the compound.
4 (a) Cl has (two) isotopes or ³⁵ Cl and ³⁷ Cl	1	
(b) 106 and 108	1	
 5 (a) compound C: pentan-2-one (b) (i) 1680 to 1750 (cm⁻¹) (ii) 3230 to 3550 (cm⁻¹) 	1 1 1	You may not have met this name yet but you will meet it in the A2 units. You must use the data sheet. You could also have 1000 to 1300 cm ⁻¹ as the answer here although the obvious answers would be the 3230 cm ⁻¹ peak for the O–H bond in an alcohol.
6 (a) C=O	1	You could also put 'carbonyl'.
(b) Cl has two isotopes	1	³⁵ Cl and ³⁷ Cl without the word isotope would score – but they must be the correct isotopes, i.e. 35 and 37.
7 in the region 1680–1750 cm ⁻¹	1	
8 both spectra will show the same OH alcohol peak at 3230 to 3550 cm ⁻¹ since the two compounds are isomers of each other and have the same functional group fingerprint region will be different since the compounds are not exactly the same	1 1 1	