Organic Chemistry, 7e (Bruice)

Chapter 2 Acids and Bases: Central to Understanding Organic Chemistry

- 1) Which of the following is not a conjugate acid-base pair?
- A) H₂O, HO-
- B) H₂O, H₃O⁺
- C) HSO₄-, H₂SO₄
- D) -OH, O²-
- E) NO₃-, NO₂-

Answer: E Section: 2-1

2) What is the product formed from the following acid-base reaction when ammonia functions as a base? The equilibrium lies far to the reactants.

CH3OH + :NH3 ≠

- A) CH₃O⁻ + +NH₄
- B) $CH_2OH + +NH_3$
- C) $CH_3OH_2 + -NH_2$
- D) $CH_3NH_2 + H_2O$
- E) CH4 + NH2OH

Answer: A Section: 2-1

- 3) The conjugate acid of H₂O is _____.
- A) H₃O-
- B) H₃O
- C) H₃O+
- D) HO-
- E) H₂O+

Answer: C Section: 2-1

- 4) Which of the following ions is the strongest acid?
- A) H-
- B) HO-
- C) HSO₄-
- D) H2O
- E) H₃O+

Answer: E Section: 2-1

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5) Which species act as bases in the following reaction?

$$H_2SO_4 + HNO_3 \rightleftharpoons H_2NO_3 + HSO_4$$
1 2 3 4

- A) 1 and 2
- B) 3 and 4
- C) 2 and 4
- D) 1 and 3
- E) 2 and 3
- Answer: C
- Section: 2-1
- 6) What is the conjugate acid of NH3?
- A) + NH3
- B) -NH
- C) +NH4
- D) -NH₂
- E) +NH2
- Answer: C
- Section: 2-1
- 7) What is the conjugate acid of CH3NH2?
- A) CH3NH3+
- B) CH₃NH-
- C) NH₄+
- D) NH2-
- Answer: A
- Section: 2-1
- 8) What is the conjugate base of CH₃NH₂?
- A) CH3NH3+
- B) CH₃NH-
- C) NH4+
- D) NH2-
- Answer: B
- Section: 2-1

9) Give the conjugate acid and the conjugate base for HSO₄-.

Answer: conjugate acid: H2SO4

conjugate base: SO₄2-

Section: 2-1

10) Write a completed equation for the acid-base pair shown below.

 $HCO_2H + -NH_2 \rightarrow$

Answer: $HCO_2H + -NH_2 \rightarrow HCO_2 - + NH_3$

Section: 2-1

11) What is the pH of a 0.1 M solution of HCl? (Note: pKa for HCl is -6.)

A) 6

B) -6

C) 1

D) -8

E)-1

Answer: C Section: 2-2

12) If H₂O has a pK_a value of 15.7 and HF has a pK_a value of 3.2, which is a stronger base, HO-or F-? Explain.

Answer: HO- is a stronger base than F- because HF is a stronger acid than H₂O, and the stronger the acid the weaker its conjugate base.

Section: 2-2

13) 2-Propanol is shown below. Draw the structure of its conjugate base.

(CH₃)₂CHOH

Answer:

14) Which of the following is the strongest acid? A) CH ₃ OH
B) CH ₃ OH ₂ +
C) H ₂ N-
D) CH3NH2
E) CH ₃ NH ₃ +
Answer: B
Section: 2-6
15) The pKa of CH ₃ COOH is 4.8 and the pKa of HCOOH is 3.8. Given this information, one knows that A) CH ₃ COOH completely ionizes in water
B) HCOOH is a weaker acid than CH ₃ COOH
C) HCOO- is a weaker base than CH ₃ COO-
D) CH ₃ COOH reacts with HO- while HCOOH does not
E) HCOOH reacts with HO- while CH ₃ COOH does not Answer: C Section: 2-6
16) Which of the following is the strongest acid?
A) HF
B) H ₂ O
C): NH ₃
D) CH4
E) CH ₃ OH Answer: A
Section: 2-6
17) Which of the following is the strongest acid?
A) CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂
B) CH ₃ OCH ₃ C) CH ₃ —NH—CH ₃
D) CH3—C [≡] CH
E) CH3—CH=CH2
Answer: A
Section: 2-6

18) Consider the set of compounds, NH3, HF, and H2O. Rank these compounds in order of increasing acidity and discuss your rationale.

Answer: NH3 < H2O < HF

When determining relative acidity, it is often useful to look at the relative basicity of the conjugate bases. The stronger the acid, the weaker (more stable, less reactive) the conjugate base. In this case, one would look at the relative basicity of F-, OH-, and NH2-. The relative strengths of these species can be gauged based on the electronegativity of the charged atom in each base. Since fluorine is the most electronegative, F- is the most stable, least reactive base in the group. This means that its conjugate acid, HF, is the strongest.

Section: 2-6

- 19) Identify the compound with the highest pK_a.
- A) CH3NH2
- B) CH₃OH
- C) CH₃COOH
- D) H2O
- E) CH3NH3+

Answer: A Section: 2-6

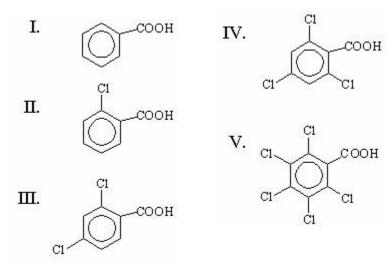
- 20) Identify the compound with the highest pKa.
- A) CH₃CH₃
- B) HCCH
- C) CH₂CH₂
- D) CH₃OH
- E) CH₃NH₂

Answer: A Section: 2-6

- 21) Identify the most acidic carboxylic acid.
- A) ICH2COOH
- B) BrCH2COOH
- C) CH₃COOH
- D) FCH2COOH
- E) CICH2COOH

Answer: D Section: 2-7

22) Which of the following is the strongest acid?



- A) I
- B) II
- C) III
- D) IV
- E) V

Answer: E Section: 2-7

23) Explain why: NF3 is a weaker base than: NH3.

Answer: Fluorine has an electron withdrawing effect that reduces the availability of the pair of electrons on nitrogen. Thus the basicity of: NF3 is less than that of: NH3.

Section: 2-7

24) Would you predict trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, CF₃SO₃H, to be a stronger or weaker acid than methanesulfonic acid, CH₃SO₃H? Explain your reasoning.

Answer: Trifluoromethanesulfonic acid is a stronger acid. Compare the strengths of the conjugate bases and remember that the weaker the base, the stronger the conjugate acid. In the case of the trifluoro derivative, the presence of the highly electronegative fluorine atoms serves to delocalize the negative charge to a greater extent. This additional delocalization makes trifluoromethanesulfonate a weaker base.

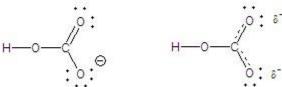
Section: 2-7

25) Which of the following anions, CH₃CHBrCO₂- or CH₃CHFCO₂- is the stronger base? Explain your choice.

Answer: CH₃CHBrCO₂- is the stronger base. The more electronegative F atom can more effectively delocalize the negative charge via induction. This greater delocalization stabilizes CH₃CHFCO₂- relative to CH₃CHBrCO₂- and makes it a weaker base.

26) Draw a resonance contributor and the resonance hybrid for $HOCO_2$ -.

Answer: resonance contributor: resonance hybrid:



Section: 2-8

27) The pKa of CH3COOH is 4.8. If the pH of an aqueous solution of CH3COOH and

CH₃COO- is 4.8, then one knows _____.

- A) CH₃COOH is completely ionized
- B) [CH₃COOH] > [CH₃COO-]
- C) $[CH_3COOH] = [CH_3COO-]$
- D) [CH3COOH] < [CH3COO-]
- E) CH3COOH is completely unionized

Answer: C Section: 2-10

- 28) When a small amount of hexanoic acid [CH₃(CH₂)₄CO₂H, pKa~4.8], is added to a separatory funnel which contains the organic solvent diethyl ether and water with a pH of 2.0, it is found mainly in the _____ phase as _____.
- A) ether; CH₃(CH₂)₄CO₂-
- B) water; CH₃(CH₂)₄CO₂-
- C) ether; $CH_3(CH_2)_4CO_2H$
- D) water; CH₃(CH₂)₄CO₂H
- E) none of the above

Answer: C Section: 2-10

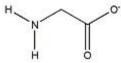
- 29) When a small amount of hexanoic acid [CH₃(CH₂) $_4$ CO₂H, pK_a~4.8], is added to a separatory funnel which contains the organic solvent diethyl ether and water with a pH of 12.0, it is found mainly in the _____ phase as _____.
- A) ether; CH₃(CH₂)₄CO₂-
- B) water; CH₃(CH₂)₄CO₂-
- C) ether; CH₃(CH₂)₄CO₂H
- D) water; CH₃(CH₂)₄CO₂H
- E) none of the above

Answer: B Section: 2-10

30) At what pH will 25% of a compound with a pKa of 5.3 be in its basic form?

Answer: 4.8 Section: 2-10

31) The amino acid glycine ($H_3N^+CH_2CO_2H$) has two acidic Hs, one with pKa = 2.34 and the other with pKa=9.60. Draw the structure of the form of glycine that predominates at a pH of 12. Answer:



Section: 2-10

32) H-A is an acid with a pKa of 4.5. Which of the following statements about an aqueous solution of H-A is true?

A) At pH = 4.5, the solution contains much more H-A than A-

B) At pH = 4.5, the solution contains much more A- than H-A

C) At pH- 3.5, the solution contains about 90% A- and 10% H-A

D) At pH = 6.5, the soluton contains about 80% A- and 20% H-A

E) At pH = 5.5, the solution contains about 90% A- and 10% H-A

Answer: E Section: 2-10

33) At what pH will the concentration of a compound with a pKa of 5.7 be 100 times greater in its acidic form than in its basic form?

Answer: 3.7 Section: 2-10

34) HCN has a pKa = 9.1. What form of the compound, HCN or CN-, will predominate in a solution of pH = 7.0

Answer: HCN Section: 2-10

35) Propanoic acid, CH₃CH₂COOH, has a pKa =4.9. Draw the structure of the conjugate base of propanoic acid and give the pH above which 90% of the compound will be in this conjugate base form.

Answer: CH₃CH₂COO-; 5.9

- 36) Buffering is used to maintain the pH of human blood in the relatively narrow 7.3 7.4 range. What acid/base pair serves to buffer the blood?
- A) H₂O / HO⁻
- B) H₃O⁺ / H₂O
- C) H2CO3 / HCO3-
- D) NH₄+/NH₃
- E) HCl / Cl-Answer: C
- Section: 2-11
- 37) Explain why AlCl3 is a Lewis acid.

Answer: A Lewis acid is an electron pair acceptor. Aluminum in AlCl₃ has an empty p orbital that can accommodate the pair of electrons provided by a Lewis base.