



Year 12 Chemistry  
Tutorial 9.3.B – Acid/Base Identification

Answers

- (a) 11  
(b) 6 - 7
- See table

Aqueous Solution	Colour in Indicator				pH of solution	Acid or base?
	Thymol blue	Litmus	Alizarin yellow	Universal indicator		
KOH	Yellow	Blue	Purple	Purple	12-13	Base
NaCl	Yellow	Grey	Yellow	Green	7	Neutral
HCl	Red	Pink	Yellow	Red	1	Acid
CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	Yellow	Pink	Yellow	Red	3	Acid
Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Yellow	Blue	Grey	Purple	11	Base

- HCl
  - Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>
  - NaCl
- Indicator Q because it is the only indicator that shows a different colour at acid, basic and neutral pH values.
  - A sample of soil should be mixed with soil and allowed to stand for 30 minutes after which it should be filtered. The filtrate can be tested with bromocresol green (BG) and then either bromothymol blue (BB) or phenol red (PR). The required pH is > 5.5 but not too high. BG (blue) and BB (yellow) will indicate a pH between 5.4 and 6.0. BG (blue) and PR (red) indicates a pH between 5.4 and 6.8.
  - Test a sample of water with a few drops of methyl orange. The methyl orange goes red.  
Test a water sample with a few drops of bromothymol blue. The bromothymol blue goes yellow.  
Make sure that the conditions of both tests are the same, eg. temperature, etc.  
The conclusion is that 4.4 < pH water < 6.0.