

Chemguide – questions

PHENYLAMINE: REACTIONS OF DIAZONIUM SALTS

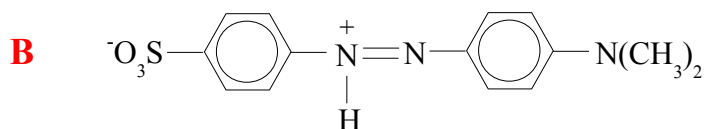
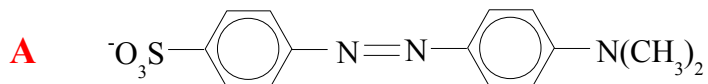
1. Diazonium ions undergo two different sorts of reactions. This question is about their substitution reactions in which the N_2^+ group is replaced by something else.
 - a) How would you replace the N_2^+ group by an OH group?
 - b) Write the ionic equation for the reaction you have described.
 - c) How would you replace the N_2^+ group by an iodine atom?
 - d) Write the ionic equation for the reaction you have described.
2. This question is about the coupling reactions of diazonium compounds.
 - a) Benzene diazonium chloride solution reacts with an ice-cold solution of sodium phenoxide, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}^- \text{Na}^+$, to give a yellow-orange precipitate or solution.
 - (i) How do you make a solution of sodium phenoxide starting from phenol?
 - (ii) Write the equation for the reaction between phenoxide ions and diazonium ions to produce the coloured product. Show clearly the structures of all the substances involved.
 - b) Naphthalen-2-ol (2-naphthol, beta-naphthol) has a similar reaction with diazonium ions, which is carried out in a similar way. The naphthalen-2-ol is first converted into its negative ion, and then reacted with benzenediazonium chloride - everything being ice-cold. An intense orange precipitate is formed.
 - (i) Draw the structure for naphthalen-2-ol.
 - (ii) Draw the structure for the negative ion formed from it.
 - (iii) Write the equation for the reaction of that ion with benzenediazonium ions, showing clearly the structure of the product.
 - c) The dye “aniline yellow” is made by reacting benzenediazonium chloride solution with phenylamine (aniline). Draw its structure.

continued . . .

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3. a) Explain briefly why azo compounds (compounds like the ones you will have drawn in Q2 containing a -N=N- bridge between two benzene rings) are coloured.

b) Methyl orange is an azo compound and comes in two forms:



One form is red and the other yellow. Which is which? Explain your reasoning.