

Which sodium salt is which?

The five sodium salts, labelled A-E, are: sodium sulfate; sodium sulfite; sodium thiosulfate; sodium metabisulfite; and sodium persulfate.

- Using laboratory tests identify which one is which and explain how you arrive at your answer.

Health & Safety

Eye protection must be worn.

Some of the tests produce sulphur dioxide (corrosive, toxic - asthmatics are especially sensitive so it should only be handled in a fume cupboard).

Warming with dilute HCl produces chlorine (toxic if inhaled) this too should be carried out in a fume cupboard or on a very small scale. Do not inhale the gas.

In planning this activity, you should consider health and safety. Treat all unknown solutions as hazardous and check your plans with your teacher before implementing them.

Credits

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Health & safety checked May 2018

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