

Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Lower 6th

Thank you for participating in the 2012 Cambridge Chemistry Challenge for Lower Sixth (Year 12). We were really pleased at the large number of entries; 4296 marks were entered into the database, an increase of more than 50% from last year.

The feedback from schools was overwhelmingly positive. The timing of the exam was felt to be ideal for the gap between finishing AS and the end of the summer term. Many teachers thought that the problems would be useful for extension or 'stretch and challenge' classes in the future.

Approximately the same proportions of certificates were awarded as last year but the marks and grade boundaries were slightly lower. We did not feel that the material in the paper was substantially harder this year, but there may have been more significant time pressure during the exam, with a lot of information to take on board particularly in question 2.

The highest scoring papers were moderated by the committee with quite a number moving both up and down.

The paper, the mark-scheme, and the examiners' comments will appear on the website soon. We hope you feel taking part in this competition was a worthwhile experience and we would welcome any additional feedback; please email feedback@C3L6.com.

For your interest a summary of the results is included over the page.

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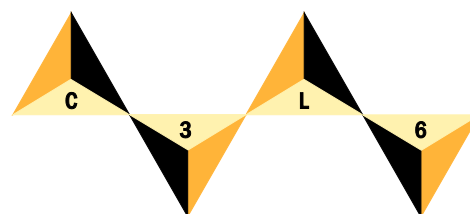
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UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
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The C3L6 committee

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Results Summary

We felt a mark of 24 or above represented a very good achievement on this paper and showed the students were able to think their way successfully through unfamiliar material. More than a fifth of the candidates were of this standard and achieved at least a Silver Award. A mark over 50% was considered very good indeed and demonstrated a significant leap beyond A-level. These students were given a Gold Award or higher. The highest award, the Roentgenium, was only given to the top 1% of students: they have been invited to attend a residential course at the University of Cambridge. It was very pleasing to see 30 schools from *all* sectors of secondary education represented in this group; this confirms our view that talented and ambitious students can be found everywhere. Nearly 300 schools submitted at least one mark; only eight of these schools did not achieve any award. A few schools registered at least one student but did not submit any marks. We hope this group will be encouraged to submit their marks in the future.

Award	Mark	Number of Students	Percentage
Roentgenium	43-60	39	0.9%
Gold	31-42	286	6.7%
Silver	24-30	624	14.5%
Copper	15-23	1620	37.7%
No Award	0-14	1727	40.2%

