

2011-2012 ACT Passage V

Passage V

Students performed the following experiments to determine the density of common plastics.

Experiment 1

A dry 100 mL graduated cylinder was placed on an electronic balance and *tared* (the balance was reset to 0.000 g). H₂O was added to the graduated cylinder until a certain mass was obtained. Ethanol was added to the graduated cylinder until the volume of liquid was 50.0 mL. The density of the liquid was then calculated. The procedure was repeated with different amounts of ethanol and H₂O (see Table 1).

Liquid	Mass of H ₂ O (g)	Mass of ethanol (g)	Total mass (g)	Density (g/mL)
1	0	39.67	39.67	0.793
2	10.24	32.43	42.67	0.853
3	19.79	25.23	45.02	0.900
4	35.42	12.47	47.89	0.958
5	49.96	0	49.96	0.999

Experiment 2

A known mass of potassium iodide (KI) was dissolved in a known mass of H₂O. A dry 100 mL graduated cylinder was placed on the balance and tared. The solution was added to the graduated cylinder until the volume was 50.0 mL. The density of the liquid was then calculated. The procedure was repeated with different amounts of KI and H₂O (see Table 2).

Liquid	Mass of H ₂ O in solution (g)	Mass of KI in solution (g)	Mass of solution in graduated cylinder (g)	Density (g/mL)
6	97.66	7.36	52.51	1.05
7	95.41	15.52	55.70	1.11
8	94.38	20.68	57.53	1.15
9	92.18	29.08	60.63	1.21
10	87.77	41.31	64.64	1.29

Experiment 3

A solid plastic bead was placed at the bottom of a sample of each of Liquids 1–10 from Experiments 1 and 2. If the bead stayed at the bottom, “S” was recorded in Table 3. If the bead rose, “R” was recorded in Table 3. The procedure was repeated for various plastics.

Plastic	Liquid									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Polybutylene	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
VLDPE	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
LDPE	S	S	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
HDPE	S	S	S	S	R	R	R	R	R	R
PA-11	S	S	S	S	S	R	R	R	R	R
PA-6	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R	R	R
Polycarbonate	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R	R
PVC	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

22. In Experiment 1, the density of ethanol was found to be:
- F. less than 0.793 g/mL.
 - G. 0.793 g/mL.
 - H. 0.999 g/mL.
 - J. greater than 0.999 g/mL.
23. Based on the results of Experiments 1–3, the density of PA-11 is most likely:
- A. less than 0.793 g/mL.
 - B. between 0.853 g/mL and 0.958 g/mL.
 - C. between 0.999 g/mL and 1.05 g/mL.
 - D. greater than 1.11 g/mL.

24. Suppose that a sixth KI/H₂O solution had been measured in Experiment 2 and the mass of the solution in the graduated cylinder was 67.54 g. The density of this solution would most likely have been closest to which of the following?

F. 1.25 g/mL
G. 1.30 g/mL
H. 1.35 g/mL
J. 1.40 g/mL

25. A plastic bead was tested as in Experiment 3 using Liquids 1–4. Which of the following is NOT a plausible set of results for the plastic?

Liquid			
1	2	3	4

A. R R R R
B. R R S S
C. S S R R
D. S S S S

26. In Experiments 1 and 2, the students tared the graduated cylinder in each trial so they could more easily determine:

F. the mass of the substances added to the graduated cylinder.
G. the density of the graduated cylinder.
H. when the total volume of the added substances was equal to 50.0 mL.
J. when all of the KI was dissolved in the H₂O.

27. A student claimed that polycarbonate is more dense than PA-6. Do the results of Experiments 1–3 support his claim?

A. No, because in Liquid 8, polycarbonate stayed at the bottom and PA-6 rose.
B. Yes, because in Liquid 8, polycarbonate stayed at the bottom and PA-6 rose.
C. No, because in Liquid 8, polycarbonate rose and PA-6 stayed at the bottom.
D. Yes, because in Liquid 8, polycarbonate rose and PA-6 stayed at the bottom.

Test 4: Science—Scoring Key

	<u>Key</u>	
1.	D	_____
2.	G	_____
3.	D	_____
4.	F	_____
5.	A	_____
6.	F	_____
7.	C	_____
8.	J	_____
9.	C	_____
10.	J	_____
11.	B	_____
12.	J	_____
13.	D	_____
14.	H	_____

	<u>Key</u>	
15.	A	_____
16.	H	_____
17.	A	_____
18.	F	_____
19.	B	_____
20.	G	_____
21.	C	_____
22.	G	_____
23.	C	_____
24.	H	_____
25.	B	_____
26.	F	_____
27.	B	_____
28.	H	_____

	<u>Key</u>	
29.	C	_____
30.	G	_____
31.	D	_____
32.	G	_____
33.	D	_____
34.	H	_____
35.	D	_____
36.	J	_____
37.	A	_____
38.	F	_____
39.	B	_____
40.	J	_____