

STEP 準 1 級 模擬問題演習

Read each passage and choose the best word or phrase from among the four choices for each blank.

History of Chemistry

When man first learned to make fire, he was unaware that he was using a chemical reaction to produce heat. He did not know that the wood he was burning (1) oxygen from the air to form the various substances that make up smoke and ash.

The use of fire (2) to important discoveries that were to affect the whole world. Sometimes strange glistening liquids would ooze from rocks heated by a fire. On cooling, they would solidify into lumps of metal. Copper was probably discovered like this in the Middle East, around 4,000 BC. When man found how useful metals were used for tools, weapons and ornaments, he sought perfect ways of extracting them from their ores. And he learned to make alloys by mixing molten metals.

By the time of the Roman Empire, people had learned how to prepare many useful substances. Glass, dyes, paints, perfumes, ointments, medicines and poisons were in great demand. But, although man was using chemistry, how it worked was still a (3). Various theories had been handed down from the Chinese, Indians and Greeks, but most of these were incorrect, and because of the confusion about chemistry, it became more and more associated with magic, trickery, fraud and religion, in a pursuit called alchemy.

(4), some alchemists adopted a more logical approach to their science. They based all their knowledge on carefully planned experiments and would not accept a theory until it had been proven. This trend eventually led to the start of modern chemistry in the 1600s. By 1900, the new understanding of chemistry had led to the establishment of a chemical industry. Advances in physics have revealed much about atomic structure, which has explained many properties of the elements and it has been (5) to manufacture new elements.

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|-----|------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| (1) | 1 concerned with | 2 turned to | | |
| | 3 consumed for | 4 combined with | | |
| (2) | 1 let | 2 led | 3 set | 4 start |
| (3) | 1 magic | 2 mystery | 3 sorcery | 4 chemistry |
| (4) | 1 Accordingly | 2 Therefore | 3 However | 4 Moreover |
| (5) | 1 creditable | 2 adorable | 3 probable | 4 possible |