

COMMON DISTINCTION TESTS IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

I. R – Cl vs R – Br vs R – I (R ≡ alkyl or aryl)

SNo.	Test	R – Cl	R – Br	R – I
a)	Dil AgNO ₃	R – Cl $\xrightarrow{\text{AgNO}_3}$ AgCl (White ppt)	R – Br $\xrightarrow{\text{AgNO}_3}$ AgBr (Pale yellow ppt)	R – I $\xrightarrow{\text{AgNO}_3}$ AgI (Yellow ppt)
b)	NH ₄ OH test	above ppt of AgCl + liq. NH ₃ or NH ₄ OH ↓ ppt dissolves	above ppt of AgBr + liq. NH ₃ or NH ₄ OH ↓ ppt partially dissolves	above ppt + liq. NH ₃ or NH ₄ OH ↓ ppt remains insoluble

II. Ethylidene chloride (Geminal) vs Ethylene Dichloride (Vicinal)

SNo.	Test	$\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}(\text{Cl})_2$ (Ethylidene chloride)	$\text{Cl} - \text{CH}_2 - \text{CH}_2 - \text{Cl}$ Ethylene dichloride
a)	Aq KOH test (Hydrolysis)	$\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}(\text{Cl})_2 \xrightarrow{\text{aq KOH}} \left[\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}(\text{OH})_2 \right]$ $\xrightarrow{\text{H}_2\text{O}} \text{CH}_3 - \text{C}(=\text{O})\text{H}$ $\xrightarrow{-\text{H}_2\text{O}} \text{O}_2\text{N}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{NO}_2)_2-\text{NHNNH}_2$ $\downarrow \text{2, 4 dinitro phenyl hydrazine}$ $\text{O}_2\text{N}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{NO}_2)_2-\text{NHNH}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}_3$ <p>Yellow ppt</p>	$\text{CH}_2 - \text{CH}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{aq KOH}} \text{CH}_2 - \text{CH}_2$ $\text{Cl} \quad \text{Cl} \quad \quad \quad \text{OH} \quad \text{OH}$ $\downarrow \text{2, 4 dinitrophenyl hydrazine}$ <p>No reaction</p>

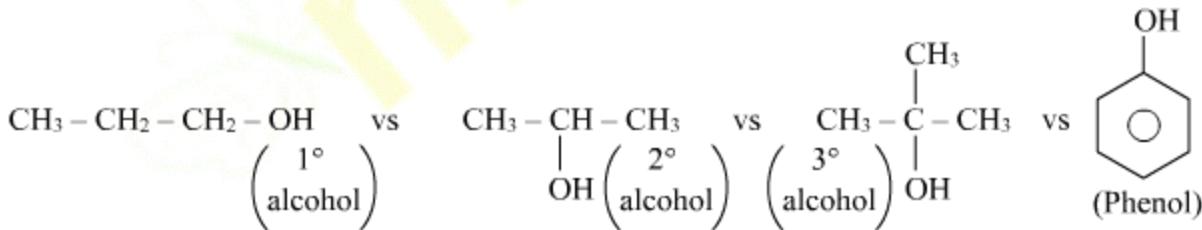
III. CHCl_3 vs $\text{CH}_3\text{Cl}/\text{CCl}_4/\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$

SNo.	Test	CHCl_3	$\text{CH}_3\text{Cl}/\text{CCl}_4/\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$
a)	Carbylamine test	$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{R}-\text{NH}_2 & + & 3\text{KOH} \\ (\text{1}^\circ \text{ amine}) & & (\text{aq}) \end{array} \xrightarrow{\quad} \begin{array}{c} \text{R}-\text{NC} \\ \text{alkyl} \\ \text{isocyanide} \end{array} + 3\text{KCl} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ <p style="text-align: center;">Pungent Smelling</p>	+ve -ve No reaction

IV. $\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}_2 - \text{OH}$ (Alcohol) vs $\text{CH}_3 - \text{O} - \text{CH}_3$ (Ether)

SNo.	Test	$\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}_2 - \text{OH}$	$\text{CH}_3 - \text{O} - \text{CH}_3$
a)	Na metal test	$\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}_2 - \text{OH} + \text{Na} \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}_2 - \text{ONa} + \frac{1}{2} \text{H}_2 \uparrow$	+ve -ve
b)	Iodoform test (for alcohols having $\text{CH}_3-\text{CH}-\text{OH}$)	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH} + 6\text{NaOH} + 4\text{I}_2 \xrightarrow{\Delta} \text{CHI}_3 \downarrow + \text{(iodoform)}$ $\text{HCOONa} + 5\text{NaI} + 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$	+ve -ve

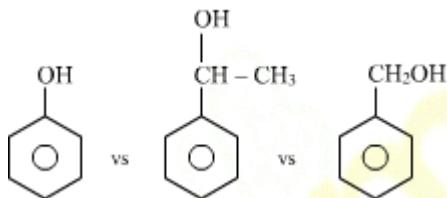
V.



SNo.	Test	$\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}_2 - \overset{\text{OH}}{\underset{\text{OH}}{\text{CH}_2}}$ (1° alcohol)	$\text{CH}_3 - \overset{\text{CH}_3}{\underset{\text{OH}}{\text{CH}}} - \text{CH}_3$ (2° alcohol)	$\text{CH}_3 - \overset{\text{CH}_3}{\underset{\text{OH}}{\text{C}}} - \text{CH}_3$ (3° alcohol)	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ (Phenol)

a)	Lucas Test (Conc. HCl + anhyd ZnCl₂)	Turbidity appears on heating	Turbidity appears within in 5 – 10 min.	Turbidity appears spontaneously	No appearance of turbidity
b)	Iodoform test		$\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH} - \text{CH}_3 + \text{OH}$ $6\text{NaOH} + 4\text{I}_2 \longrightarrow$ $\text{CHI}_3(\downarrow) + \text{HCOONa}$ <p>Yellow</p> $+ 5\text{NaI} + 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$		
c)	Br₂ water test				<p>(2, 4, 6-tribromophenol)</p>
d)	Neutral FeCl₃ Test				<p>Ferric Phenoxide (Violet ppt.)</p>
e)	Litmus Test				Turns blue litmus red
WEAK ACIDS					

f) Victor Meyer Test	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ $\downarrow \text{P} + \text{I}_2$ $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ $\quad -\text{AgI} \quad \text{AgNO}_2$ $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NO}_2$ $\quad \downarrow \text{HNO}_2$ $\text{CH}_3 - \underset{\text{NOH}}{\text{C}} - \text{NO}_2$ $\quad \text{Nitrolic Acid}$ $\quad \downarrow \text{NaOH}$ $\text{Blood Red Colouration}$	$\text{CH}_3 - \underset{\text{OH}}{\text{CH}} - \text{CH}_3$ $\downarrow \text{P} + \text{I}_2$ $\text{CH}_3 - \underset{\text{I}}{\text{CH}} - \text{CH}_3$ $\quad -\text{AgI} \quad \text{AgNO}_2$ $\text{CH}_3 - \underset{\text{NO}_2}{\text{CH}} - \text{CH}_3$ $\quad \downarrow \text{HNO}_2$ $\text{CH}_3 - \underset{\text{N}=\text{O}}{\text{C}} - \text{CH}_3$ $\quad \text{Pseudonitrol}$ $\quad \downarrow \text{NaOH}$ Blue Colouration	$\text{CH}_3 - \underset{\text{CH}_3}{\underset{\text{CH}_3}{\text{C}}} - \text{OH}$ $\downarrow \text{P} + \text{I}_2$ $\text{CH}_3 - \underset{\text{CH}_3}{\underset{\text{CH}_3}{\text{C}}} - \text{I}$ $\quad -\text{AgI} \quad \text{AgNO}_2$ $\text{CH}_3 - \underset{\text{CH}_3}{\underset{\text{CH}_3}{\text{C}}} - \text{NO}_2$ $\quad \downarrow \text{HNO}_2$ No reaction $\quad \downarrow \text{NaOH}$ Colourless	-ve
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VI.

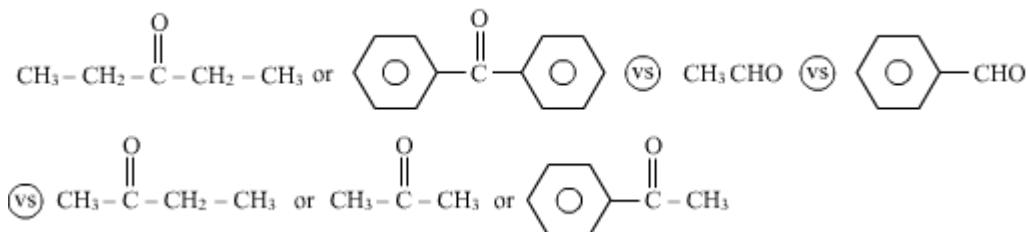
SNo.	Test			
a)	Litmus Test	Turns blue Litmus to red	-ve	-ve
b)	Neutral FeCl₃ test	$\xrightarrow{\text{FeCl}_3}$ Ferric Phenoxide + 3HCl (violet ppt)	-ve	-ve

c)	Iodoform Test	(-ve)	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_3 + 6\text{NaOH} \\ + 4\text{I}_2 \longrightarrow \\ + \text{CHI}_3 \quad (\text{Yellow ppt}) + \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COONa} \\ + 5\text{NaI} + 5\text{H}_2\text{O} \end{array} $	(-ve)
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VII. HCHO vs CH₃CHO

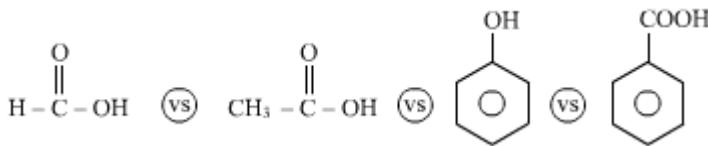
SNo.	Test	HCHO	CH ₃ CHO
a)	Iodoform test	(-ve)	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3 - \text{C}(=\text{O}) - \text{H} + 4\text{NaOH} + 3\text{I}_2 \longrightarrow \text{CHI}_3 \downarrow \\ (\text{Yellow}) \\ + \text{HCOONa} + 3\text{NaI} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} \end{array} $
b)	Liquor Ammonia Test	$ 6\text{HCHO} + 4\text{NH}_3 \longrightarrow (\text{CH}_2)_6\text{N}_4 + 6\text{H}_2\text{O} $ <p style="text-align: center;">Hexamethylene tetramine (urotropine)</p>	$ \text{CH}_3 - \text{C}(=\text{O}) - \text{H} + \text{NH}_3 \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3 - \text{CH} = \text{NH} $ <p style="text-align: center;">Addition product</p>

VIII.



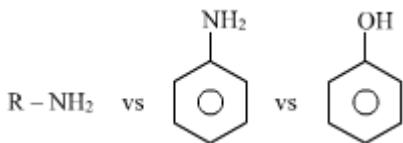
SNo.	Test	$\text{CH}_3 - \text{CH}_2 - \overset{\text{O}}{\text{C}} - \text{CH}_2 - \text{CH}_3$ or $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COOC}_6\text{H}_5$	CH₃CHO	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CHO}$	$\text{CH}_3 - \overset{\text{O}}{\text{C}} - \text{CH}_2 - \text{CH}_3$ or $\text{CH}_3 - \overset{\text{O}}{\text{C}} - \text{CH}_3$ or $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COCH}_3$
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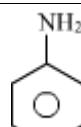
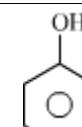
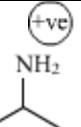
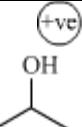
a)	Iodoform test	(-ve)	(+ve) $\text{CH}_3 - \text{CHO} + 4\text{NaOH} + 3\text{I}_2 \longrightarrow \text{CHI}_3 \downarrow + \text{HCOONa}$ (Yellow) + $3\text{NaI} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	(-ve)	(+ve) $\text{CH}_3 - \overset{\text{O}}{\underset{\parallel}{\text{C}}} - \text{CH}_2 - \text{CH}_3$ or $\text{CH}_3 - \overset{\text{O}}{\underset{\parallel}{\text{C}}} - \text{CH}_3$ or $\text{CHI}_3 + 3\text{NaI} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{COONa}$ or CH_3COONa or
b)	Tollen's reagent (amm. silver nitrate)	(-ve)	(+ve) $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO} + 2[\text{Ag}(\text{NH}_3)_2]^+ + 2\text{OH}^- \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{COO}^\ominus + \text{NH}_4^\oplus + 2\text{Ag} \downarrow + \text{H}_2\text{O} + 3\text{NH}_3$	(+ve) $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CHO} + 2[\text{Ag}(\text{NH}_3)_2]^+ + 2\text{OH}^- \longrightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COO}^\ominus + \text{NH}_4^\oplus + 2\text{Ag} \downarrow + \text{H}_2\text{O} + 3\text{NH}_3$	(-ve)
c)	Fehling's solution (copper sulphate + sodium potassium tartarate)	(-ve)	(+ve) $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO} + 2[\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2] + \text{NaOH} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{COO}^\ominus + \text{Na}^\oplus + \text{Cu}_2\text{O} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Red ppt)	(+ve) Oxidation is very difficult	(-ve)

IX.

SNo.	Test				
a)	Tollen's test	(+ve) HCOOH + Ag ₂ O → CO ₂ + H ₂ O + 2Ag↓	(-ve)	(-ve)	(-ve)
b)	Fehling's Solution test	(+ve) HCOOH + 2CuO → CO ₂ + H ₂ O + Cu ₂ O↓ (Reddish Brown ppt)	(-ve)	(-ve)	(-ve)
c)	NaHCO₃ test	(+ve) HCOOH + NaHCO ₃ → HCOONa + H ₂ O + CO ₂ ↑ (Brisk Effervescence)	(+ve) CH ₃ -COOH + NaHCO ₃ → CH ₃ COONa + H ₂ O + CO ₂ ↑ (Brisk Effervescence)	(-ve)	(+ve) C ₆ H ₅ -COOH + NaHCO ₃ → C ₆ H ₅ -COONa + H ₂ O + CO ₂ ↑ (Brisk Effervescence)

d)	Neutral FeCl₃ test	(-ve)	(-ve)	(+ve)	(+ve)
				$3 \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH} + \text{FeCl}_3 \rightarrow$ $\left(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}- \right)_3\text{Fe} + 3\text{HCl}$ <p style="text-align: center;">(Violet ppt of ferric phenoxide)</p>	$3 \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COOH} + \text{FeCl}_3 \rightarrow$ $\left(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COO}- \right)_3\text{Fe} + 3\text{HCl}$ <p style="text-align: center;">(Brown ppt of ferric benzoate)</p>

X.

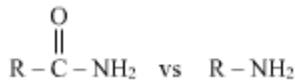
SNo.	Test	$\text{R}-\text{NH}_2$		
a)	Bromine water	(-ve)	 NH_2 $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{NH}_2 + 3\text{Br}_2 \rightarrow$ $\text{Br}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{NH}_2)-\text{Br} + 3\text{HBr}$ <p style="text-align: center;">2, 4, 6-tribromo aniline (White ppt)</p>	 OH $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{OH})_3 + 3\text{Br}_2 \rightarrow$ $\text{Br}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_2(\text{OH})_2-\text{Br} + 3\text{HBr}$ <p style="text-align: center;">2, 4, 6-tribromo phenol (White ppt)</p>
b)	Neutral FeCl₃	(-ve)	(-ve)	(+ve)

			$3 \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH} + \text{FeCl}_3 \rightarrow$ $\left(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}-\text{Fe}-\text{O-C}_6\text{H}_5 \right)_3 + 3\text{HCl}$ <p style="text-align: center;">(Violet ppt of ferric phenoxide)</p>	
c)	Carbylamine test	$\text{R-NH}_2 + 3\text{KOH} + (\text{1}^\circ \text{ amine}) \quad (\text{aq})$ $\text{CHCl}_3 \rightarrow \text{RNC} + \text{alkyl isocyanide}$ <p style="text-align: center;">(Pungent smelling)</p> $3\text{KCl} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	<p style="text-align: center;">(Pungent smelling)</p>	
d)	Azo Dye Test	Azo dye formed is unstable, so cannot be removed from solution		

XI. R – NH₂ vs R₂NH vs R₃N

SNo.	Test	R – NH ₂ (1° amine)	R ₂ NH (2° amine)	R ₃ N
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a)	Carbylamine Test	$\text{R} - \text{NH}_2 + \text{CHCl}_3 + 3\text{KOH} \quad (\text{aq})$ \downarrow $\text{R} - \text{NC} + 3\text{KCl} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ <p style="text-align: center;">alkyl isocyanide (Pungent smelling)</p>		
b)	Nitrous Acid Test	$\text{R} - \text{NH}_2 + \text{HO} - \text{N} = \text{O}$ $\longrightarrow \text{R} - \text{OH} + \text{N}_2 \uparrow + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ <p style="text-align: center;">Evolution of nitrogen</p>	$\text{R}_2 - \text{N} - \text{H} + \text{HO} - \text{N} = \text{O}$ $\longrightarrow \text{R}_2\text{N} - \text{N} = \text{O}$ <p style="text-align: center;">N-nitroso dialkyl amine (Yellow oily liquid)</p> <p>+ Phenol $\xrightarrow{\text{Warm}}$ Green colour</p>	$\text{R}_3\text{N} + \text{HNO}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{Warm}} \text{R}_3\text{NHNO}_2$ <p style="text-align: center;">(Water Soluble)</p>
c)	Hinsberg's Test [Hinsberg's Reagent is a mixture of (i) Benzene sulphonyl chloride, (ii) KOH, and (iii) HCl	$\text{R} - \text{NH}_2 + \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$ <p style="text-align: center;">Benzene sulphonyl chloride</p> $\downarrow -\text{HCl}$ $\text{R} - \underset{\text{H}}{\overset{\text{R}}{\text{N}}} - \text{SO}_2 - \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ <p style="text-align: center;">N-alkylbenzene sulphonamide (Insoluble)</p> $\downarrow -\text{H}_2\text{O} \quad \text{KOH}$ $\left[\text{R} - \underset{\text{H}}{\overset{\text{R}}{\text{N}}} - \text{S}^+ \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \text{C}_6\text{H}_5 \right] \text{K}^+$ <p style="text-align: center;">Pot. Salt (Soluble in KOH)</p> $\downarrow -\text{KCl} \quad \text{HCl}$ $\text{R} - \underset{\text{H}}{\overset{\text{R}}{\text{N}}} - \text{S}^+ \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ <p style="text-align: center;">N-alkylbenzene sulphonamide (insoluble)</p>	$\text{R} - \underset{\text{H}}{\overset{\text{R}}{\text{N}}} - \text{R} + \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$ $\downarrow -\text{HCl}$ $\text{R} - \underset{\text{R}}{\overset{\text{O}}{\text{N}}} - \text{S}^+ \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ <p style="text-align: center;">N, N-dialkyl-benzene sulphonamide</p> $\downarrow \text{KOH}$ <p style="text-align: center;">No reaction (Insoluble)</p> $\downarrow \text{HCl}$ <p style="text-align: center;">No reaction (Insoluble)</p>	$\text{R} - \underset{\text{R}}{\overset{\text{R}}{\text{N}}} - \text{R} + \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$ \downarrow <p style="text-align: center;">No reaction (Insoluble)</p> $\downarrow \text{HCl}$ $+ \text{R}_3\text{NHCl}^-$ <p style="text-align: center;">Trialkyl-ammonium chloride (Soluble in HCl)</p>



SNo.	Test	$\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\underset{\parallel}{\text{C}}}-\text{NH}_2$	$\text{R}-\text{NH}_2$
a)	Litmus Test	No response to litmus	Red litmus changes to Blue
b)	Carbylamine test	(-ve)	$\text{R}-\text{NH}_2 + \text{CHCl}_3 + 3\text{KOH} \text{ (aq)}$ $\longrightarrow \text{RNC} + 3\text{KCl} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ <p style="text-align: center;">alkyl isocyanide</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pungent Smelling</p>

XIII. RNO_2 vs RONO

SNo.	Test	$\text{R}-\text{NO}_2$	RONO
a)	Reduction (Sn/HCl)	$\text{R}-\text{NO}_2 + 6\text{H} \longrightarrow \text{RNH}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\text{RONO} + 6\text{H} \longrightarrow \text{ROH} + \text{NH}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
b)	NaOH	Form's soluble sodium salt. $\text{R}-\overset{\text{O}}{\underset{\parallel}{\text{N}}}-\text{O} \xrightarrow{\text{NaOH}} \text{R}-\overset{\text{ONa}}{\underset{\parallel}{\text{N}}}-\text{O}$	Readily hydrolysed to give corresponding alcohol and sodium nitrite. $\text{RONO} + \text{NaOH} \longrightarrow \text{ROH} + \text{NaNO}_2$

XIV. RCN vs RNC

SNo.	Test	$\text{R}-\text{NO}_2$	RONO
a)	Solubility in water	Soluble	Insoluble
b)	Reduction followed by nitrous acid treatment	$\text{RCN} + 4\text{H} \longrightarrow \text{RCH}_2\text{NH}_2$ <p style="text-align: center;">$\text{I}^\circ \text{ amine}$</p> $\downarrow \text{HNO}_2$ $\text{R-OH} + \text{N}_2 \uparrow + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ <p style="text-align: center;">Evolution of nitrogen</p>	$\text{RCN} + 4\text{H} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{R}-\text{N}-\text{CH}_3 \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \downarrow \text{HNO}_2 \\ \text{R}-\text{N}-\text{N}=\text{O} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \end{array}$ <p style="text-align: center;">Yellow oily</p>

c)	Hydrolysis	$\text{R} - \text{C} \equiv \text{N} \xrightarrow[\text{H}^+]{\text{H}_2\text{O}} \begin{array}{l} \text{RCONH}_2 \\ \text{amide} \end{array}$ $\downarrow \text{H}^+ \text{ H}_2\text{O}$ $\text{H}_2\text{N} + \text{RCOOH}$ Carboxylic acid	$\text{R} - \text{N} \rightleftharpoons \text{C} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \xrightarrow{\text{H}^+}$ $\text{RNH}_2 + \text{HCOOH}$ $1^\circ \text{ amine} \quad \text{Formic acid}$
d)	Heating	No effect	Alkyl cyanide is formed