Year 9 Science: Acids and bases: pH scale, alkalis and indicators

Name: _____ Date: _____

Try these without your notes first, then check the answer key.

Practice

1. A solution has pH 4. Is it acidic, neutral or alkaline, and what colour would universal indicator turn?

2. Magnesium oxide hardly dissolves in water. Is it a base, an alkali, or both?

3. You need to check whether a farmer's paddock soil is pH 5.8 or 6.2. Which method should you use, and why?

4. Why is it a bad idea to identify a liquid in the lab by tasting it, even though acids taste sour?

5. Oven cleaner has pH 13 and lemon juice has pH 2. Which is further from neutral, and what does that tell you about handling it?

Fix the mistake

6. Correct this statement: "pH 2 is only a little more acidic than pH 3, because the numbers are just 1 apart."

7. Correct this statement: "The higher the pH number, the stronger the acid."

8. Correct this statement: "Alkali and base mean the same thing."

9. Correct this statement: "Litmus paper tells you the pH of a solution."