Nature's Chemistry 2

Crude Oil – From the Rocks to the Road



Name	 	 	
Class			
Teacher			

Aim: Where does crude oil come from?

Crude oil comes from beneath sedimentary rock, most often on land, but also from beneath the seabed via oil-drilling platforms.

Commonly, crude oil is thought to be the remains of dead plants and animals that have been buried under sediment for millions of years. The plants and animals are said to be slowly converted into crude oil by high temperature, compression and bacterial action.

To get the oil out of the ground, the workers on the rig inject water into the rock. This pushes the oil out of the ground and up pipes to the surface.

2. What is crude oil?	
on rigs. The rigs	s are lit up.
from the	by people o
the	North Sea. This oil is extracted

Water is _____ into the rocks _____ the ground. This _____ the oil out and up _____ to the surface.

Aim: How can we make crude oil useful?

The various parts of crude oil have different sizes, weights and boiling temperatures; so, the first step is to separate these components. Because they have different boiling temperatures, they can be separated easily by a process called fractional distillation.

The oil is heated high temperature and boils, forming gases. The gases enter the bottom of a long column (fractional distillation column) that is filled with trays or plates. The trays have many holes or bubble caps (like a loosened cap on a coke bottle) in them to allow the vapor to pass through. They help to collect liquids that form at various heights in the column. There is a temperature difference in the column (hot at the bottom, cool at the top). When the gas reaches a height where the temperature is the same as its boiling point, it becomes a liquid.

	1. What is the name for the process where crude oil is split into different parts (fractions)?
	Crude oil can be up into different parts (fractions) via a called fractional
	·
(2. How do the gases get through each tray/plate in the column?
	Each tray/plate has a or a bubble cap that gasses to pass
(3. Why do the gases become liquids at different heights in the column?
	The decreases as the move up the column. The gases turn into when they reach a height

the temperature is the _____ as their boiling point.



Aim: What molecules do we find in Crude Oil?

Once crude oil has been split up into different fractions, we need to be able to say what molecules are in those fractions. The molecules only contain carbon and hydrogen so we say that they are "**hydrocarbons**" (hydro = hydrogen, carbon = carbon!). The family of hydrocarbons can be further split into other families such as **alkanes**. Alkanes only have single bonds between the carbon atoms and are said to be "saturated".

(1. What is a hydrocarbon?	
	A hydrocarbon is a that only carbon and hydrogen.	
/	3. What is important about the bonds between the carbon atoms in the family of alkanes?	
	Alkenes contain bonds whereas do not.	

To give an alkane a name, we look at the number of carbons in the longest chain.

Name	Number of carbons in the
	longest chain
Methane	1
Ethane	2
Propane	3
Butane	4
Pentane	5
Hexane	6
Heptane	7
Octane	8

We can draw the full structural formula of propane and butane as shown below:



Another family of hydrocarbons is the **alkenes**. Alkenes have at least one double bond between carbon atoms and are said to be "**unsaturated**".

Name	Number of carbons in the
	longest chain
Ethene	2
Propene	3
Butene	4
Pentene	5
Hexene	6
Heptene	7
Octene	8

To give an alkene a name, we look at the number of carbons in the longest chain.

We can draw the full structural formula of propene and butene as shown below:



Aim: How can we tell the difference between alkanes and alkenes?

Bromine water is a yellow/brown colour. If you shake Bromine water in a test tube of an alkene then the colour will change from yellow to colourless. A chemist would call this "decolourisation". This does not occur for alkanes and other saturated (no double bonds) hydrocarbons. The reason for the change is that the bromine molecule (Br_2) is broken in two and each Bromine atom forms a bond with a carbon that previously had a double bond.





3. Why does the bromo-compound (the product of the reaction) have "ane" at the end of the name instead of "-ene"?

The product of the _____ is saturated (has no _____ bonds) so it is much more like an _____ than an alkene.

Aim: How can we change a long hydrocarbon into a short hydrocarbon?

Usually, it's the shorter hydrocarbons that are the most useful for fuels, making plastics etc. That means that we need a process to split up less-useful long hydrocarbons into more useful shorter ones. This process is called **cracking** and usually requires a **catalyst** and a **high temperature**. The products that you get depend on the temperature but the **total number of carbons in all the products** combined will always be the **same as the number of carbons in the reactant**. The products from a cracking reaction will always contain **at least one alkene**.









Aim: What is a plastic?

A chemist would call a plastic a "**polymer**" – a long-chain molecule made up of many smaller molecules called "**monomers**". The monomer is usually an alkene.

1. What is a no	lvmer?	
A "polyme up of	er" a long smaller mole	molecule made ecules.
2. What is	a polymer made up of?	
A	is made of	molecules
3. Draw the p	olymers made from the foll	lowing monomers
С Т Н Н		
Br Cl		
C=C		
I I Br Cl		



Aim: How can we make a plastic?

Many polymers are made by "addition polymerisation". This is a chemical reaction where a double bond is broken to create new, single bonds. In this case, the double bond in a monomer is broken to make new, single bonds to other monomers. *i.e.*

