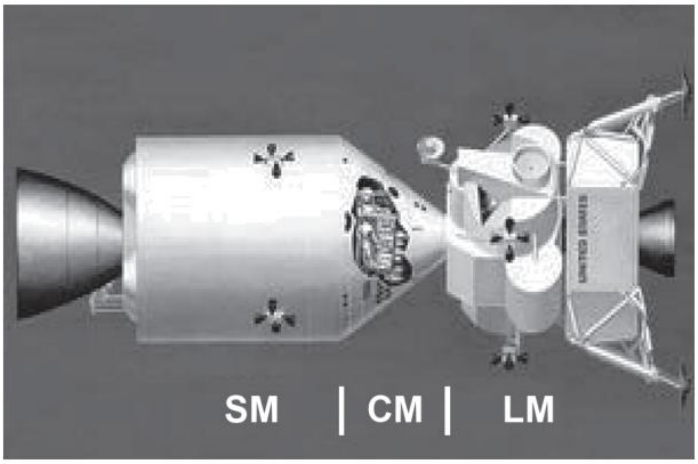
Question 37 **(24 marks)**

In 1971, the seventh manned Apollo mission, Apollo 13, was launched and expected to land on the moon. Two days into the mission, one of the oxygen tanks exploded. The mission was aborted, but in order for the spacecraft to return to Earth safely, many problems needed to be solved. A number of them involved chemistry.



The spacecraft consisted of three sections:
- the Service Module (SM)
- the Command Module (CM)
- the Lunar Module (LM).

The Lunar Module was designed to hold two astronauts for the short trip between lunar orbit and the moon's surface. On the trip back to Earth, the astronauts were required to spend more time than expected in the lunar module.

One of the problems encountered was how to remove the carbon dioxide breathed out by the astronauts from the atmosphere in the spacecraft. This was done by reacting it with lithium hydroxide, which was housed in canisters.

(a) Write an equation for the reaction between carbon dioxide gas and lithium hydroxide to form lithium carbonate and water. (2 marks)

(b) A typical lithium hydroxide canister contains 750.0 g of lithium hydroxide. What mass of carbon dioxide would be required to react completely with the lithium hydroxide in each canister? (3 marks)

On returning to Earth, a partially-used canister was analysed to determine the percentage of lithium hydroxide remaining.

A 12.33 g sample of the canister contents was dissolved in distilled water and sufficient barium nitrate solution was added to precipitate the carbonate ions. The solution was filtered and transferred to a 500.00 mL volumetric flask, which was then filled to the mark. 20.00 mL aliquots of the solution were transferred to conical flasks and titrated against a standardised 0.116 mol L^{-1} solution of hydrochloric acid.

The following results were obtained from the titrations.

Volume (mL)	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Final Volume	18.55	34.90	18.50	34.85
Initial Volume	1.50	18.55	2.20	18.50
Titre				

(c) Complete the results table above and calculate the percentage of lithium hydroxide remaining in the canister. (6 marks)

(d) From the list of indicators given below, identify **two** that could be used in the titration between lithium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid. Explain why both indicators are appropriate choices for this titration. (4 marks)

Indicator	Low pH colour	Transition pH range	High pH colour
Methyl violet	yellow	0.0 – 1.6	blue
Bromothymol blue	yellow	6.0 – 7.6	blue
Phenolphthalein	colourless	8.3 – 10.0	pink
Thymolphthalein	colourless	9.4 – 10.6	blue

Indicator one: ____

Indicator two: ____

Explanation: ____

____

____

____

____

The tank that exploded during the mission provided oxygen for the fuel cells that powered the spacecraft.

(e) List **two** advantages that fuel cells have over primary and secondary cells. (2 marks)

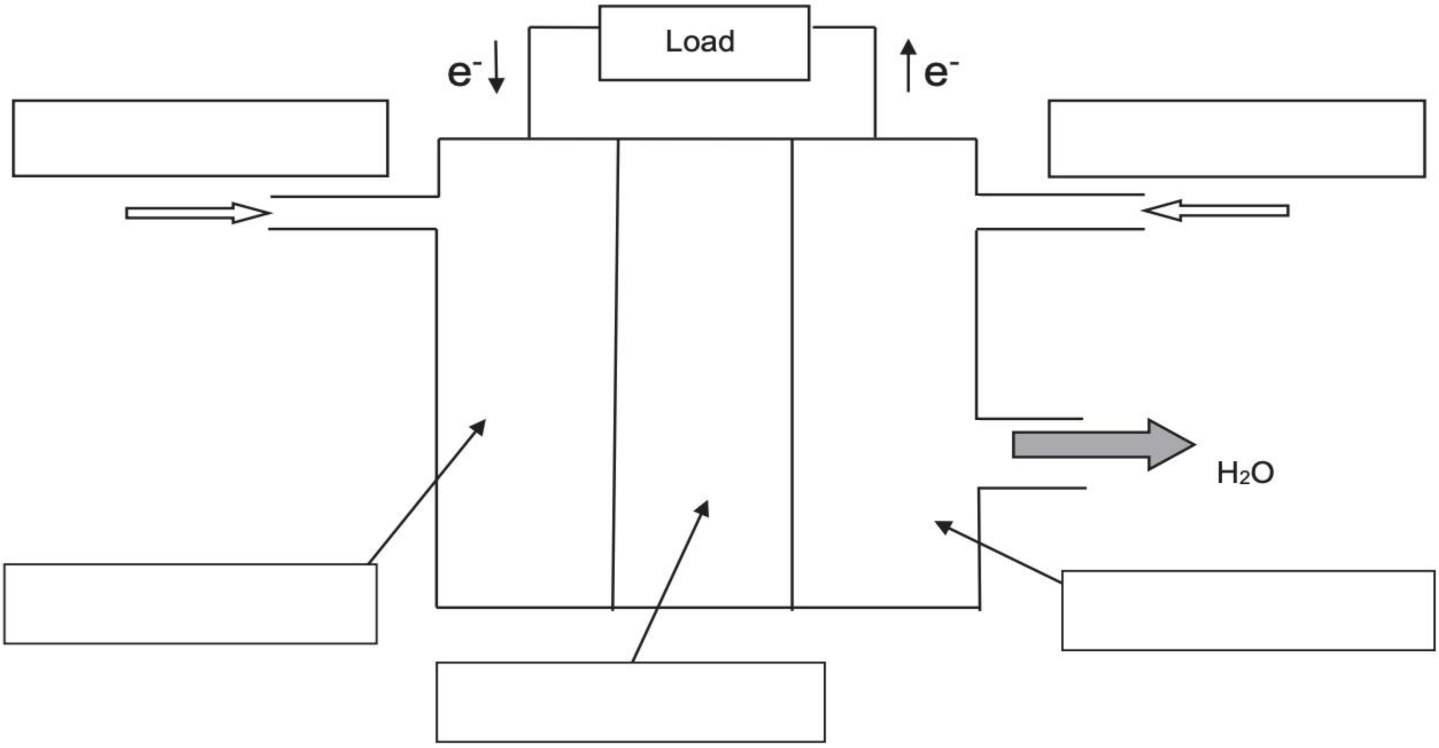
One: ____

____

Two: ____

____

(f) In the boxes provided, label the following diagram of a typical hydrogen-oxygen fuel cell. Include anode, cathode, electrolyte, hydrogen gas and oxygen gas. (3 marks)



(g) Explain the function of the electrolyte. (2 marks)

(h) From the table provided in the Chemistry Data booklet, calculate the EMF for the reaction between hydrogen gas and oxygen gas. (1 mark)

(i) A hydrogen-oxygen fuel cell on the Apollo spacecraft generally produced an EMF of 1.21 V per cell. State **one** reason why the theoretical (calculated) value was not the same as the actual EMF generated by the fuel cells on the spacecraft. (1 mark)