Compound	Melting Point (°C)
LiI	449
KI	686
LiF	845
NaF	993

6. A student learns that ionic compounds have significant covalent character when a cation has a polarizing effect on a large anion. As a result, the student hypothesizes that salts composed of small cations and large anions should have relatively low melting points.

   (a) Select two compounds from the table and explain how the data support the student's hypothesis.

   (b) Identify a compound from the table that can be dissolved in water to produce a basic solution. Write the net ionic equation for the reaction that occurs to cause the solution to be basic.

AP® CHEMISTRY
2015 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 6

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LiI	449
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(a) Select two compounds from the table and explain how the data support the student's hypothesis.

LiI and KI. LiI has a small cation and a large anion and KI has a large cation and the same large anion. The melting point of LiI (with its smaller cation) is lower than that of KI. **OR** LiI and LiF. LiI has a small cation and a large anion and LiF has the same small cation and a small anion. The melting point of LiI (with its larger anion) is lower than that of LiF. **OR** LiI and NaF. LiI has a small cation and a large anion and NaF has a relatively small cation and a small anion. The melting point of LiI (with its larger anion) is lower than that of NaF.	1 point is earned for choosing an appropriate pair of compounds (LiI/KI, LiI/LiF, or LiI/NaF). 1 point is earned for an explanation that supports the hypothesis.

(b) Identify a compound from the table that can be dissolved in water to produce a basic solution. Write the net ionic equation for the reaction that occurs to cause the solution to be basic.

Either LiF or NaF is acceptable. $F^- + H_2O \rightleftarrows HF + OH^-$	1 point is earned for choosing one of the correct compounds. 1 point is earned for writing a correct balanced equation.