



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA  
14-16 AHMADU BELLO WAY, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS  
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2013 EXAMINATION**

**CHM 408: POLYMER CHEMISTRY**

**Duration: 2 hrs**

*Answer any four questions (each question carries a total  
17  $\frac{1}{2}$  marks)*

**Question 1**

- a) Define the term Polymerization. Give five examples of addition polymer.
- b) Differentiate between condensation polymer and addition polymers.

**Question 2**

- a) Discuss in detail each of the following isomerism
  - i) Orientational isomerism
  - ii) Configurational isomerism
  - iii) Geometrical isomerism
  - iv) Structural isomerism
- b) Differentiate between tactic and atactic polymers

**Question 3**

- a) Discuss in detail with structural examples type of copolymers
- b) State any five advantages of copolymerization
- c) Define copolymerization

**Question 4**

- a) Differentiate between the types of polymer solvents
- b) Discuss the solution process which occur when a polymer is added to a solvent
- c) Explain how the following affects polymer solubility:
  - i) polarity
  - ii) cross linking
  - iii) molecular weight
  - iv) branching

**Question 5**

- a) Enumerate seven differences between thermoplastic and thermosets
- b) State five industrial applications each of the following thermoplastics
  - i) Polypropylene
  - ii) Polyethylene terephthalate
- c) State at least five properties of an epoxides thermosetting polymer

**Question 6**

- a) Discuss in detail the mechanical properties of polymers
- b) Enumerate five agents of degradation and likely susceptible polymers.

- c) **Define polymer degradation and enumerate types of polymer degradation.**
- d) **Enumerate five agents of degradation and likely susceptible polymers**

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