



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA**  
**14/15 AHMADU BELLO WAY, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS**

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**OCTOBER 2013 EXAMINATION**

**Course Code: CHM307**

**Course Title: ATOMIC AND MOLECULAR STRUCTURE AND SYMMETRY**

**INSTRUCTION: ATTEMPT ANY FIVE QUESTIONS**

**TIME: 2½ HOURS**

1. (a) Highlight the conditions for the formation of symmetry point group. (5 marks)  
(b) List the symmetry elements that a molecule can possess. (4 marks)  
(c) With respect to symmetry, briefly write on the following;  
(i) Mirror plane (ii) Inversion (5 marks)
2. (a) Show the steps required to determine point groups for different molecules. (4 marks)  
(b) List the symmetry elements of the following molecules:  
(i)  $\text{BCl}_3$  (ii)  $\text{NH}_3$  (iii)  $\text{BF}_3$  (6 marks)  
(c) Discuss the implication of symmetry on the properties of molecules. (4 marks)
3. (a) What is an electronic spectrum? (4 marks)  
(b) Discuss briefly the Franck-Condon Principle. (6 marks)  
(c) Explain the selection rules for a harmonic oscillator. (4 marks)
4. (a) Write a short note on Vibration Spectroscopy. (6 marks)  
(b) What are internal coordinates? (4 marks)  
(c) What are the uses of microscope spectroscopy? (4 marks)
5. (a) Write a short note on Rotational spectroscopy. (6 marks)  
(b) Discuss the classes of molecules based on rotational behavior. (8 marks)
6. (a) Highlight the steps to writing resonance structures; and show resonance in Ozone and Benzene. (7 marks)  
(b) What is Nuclear Coupling? (3 marks)  
(c) State the usefulness of Quantum Mechanics. (4 marks)
7. (a) What is bond order? (3 marks)  
(b) State the relationship between bond order, bond length and bond strength. (3 marks)  
(c) What information could be obtained from bond order? (3 marks)  
(d) The ground state electron configuration of  $\text{N}_2$ , with even valence electrons is  $1\sigma_g^2 1\sigma_u^2 1\pi_u^4 2\sigma_g^2$ .  
(i) Calculate the bond order (ii) Is  $\text{N}_2$  diamagnetic or paramagnetic? (1½ each; = 3 marks)  
(iii) Is  $\text{N}_2$  stable? Give reasons. (2 marks)

