

**accuracy** a measure of how near your measurements are to the accepted values, an estimate of error | **adequate accuracy** the measurements are acceptable for that experiment with that equipment | **relative accuracy** a comparison of the size of the error to the size of measurement

**accurate** reliable, repeatable, without error | **accurate clocks** instruments for measuring time that do not change their speed | **accurate measurements** being very close to the accepted value | **accurate method** a technique that is capable of giving results that are reliable and repeatable | **accurate observations** description containing sufficient details that another person could recognise the same change or object | **more accurate** results that are reliable and repeatable

**accurately** with as little error as possible

**acetate** a transparent sheet that can be written on with pen and used on an overhead projector | **acetate ion** [CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>] ethanoate ion

**acetic acid** [CH<sub>3</sub>COOH] vinegar, ethanoic acid

**acetone** [(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO] propanone, an inflammable liquid that is a good solvent

**acetylene** [C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>] a gas that reacts with lots of oxygen to give very high temperatures

**ache** hurting, throbbing; to feel hurt | **tooth ache** a pain in the tooth

**achieve** to succeed in reaching a target

**acid** a chemical which has a pH below 7, the word acid means sour | **"acid"** the illegal drug that causes hallucinations, LSD | **acid conditions** the reaction is taking place at a pH below 7 | **acid fumes** a vapour containing particles of a strong acid | **acid oxide** a compound containing two types of atom, one of which must be oxygen, that dissolves in water to give a pH below 7 | **acid rain** the falling rain has a pH below 7 caused by the water absorbing the oxides of nitrogen, sulphur and phosphorus from the air | **acid soil** earth that has a pH below 7 that could be caused by acid rain or by decay of dead plants producing peat, some plants prefer to grow in acid soil | **acetic acid** [CH<sub>3</sub>COOH] vinegar, ethanoic acid | **amino acids** the building blocks of proteins | **ascorbic acid** the proper name for vitamin C | **battery acid** the sulphuric acid that is used in the type of battery (lead-acid battery) used in a car | **bench acid** the types and concentrations of acid that would be expected to be available at the laboratory bench | **benzoic acid** [C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>COOH] a weak acid that forms white crystals | **carbolic acid** [C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH] phenol, the original antiseptic | **carbonic acid** [H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>] a weak acid that is produced by adding carbon dioxide to water

under pressure, the acid in fizzy drinks (the fizz is carbon dioxide) | **citric acid** gives citrus fruits, such as oranges and lemons, their sour taste | **common acids** the acids that would be expected to be in most laboratories or in many shops | **concentrated acid** lots of acid particles in a small volume – tends to be corrosive and poisonous | **deoxyribonucleic acid** DNA, the molecule in the chromosome to which genes are encoded | **dilute acid** not many acid particles in a given volume of liquid | **ethanoic acid** [CH<sub>3</sub>COOH] acetic acid, better known as vinegar | **fatty acids** chemicals that contain a -COOH group, the chemicals produced by breakdown of fats | **follic acid** one of the vitamin B group of chemicals that is found in liver and green vegetables and is important for the absorption of iron | **formic acid** [HCOOH] methanoic acid, the irritant injected by ants and nettles | **household acids** any acid, such as citric acid or vinegar, that is available at supermarkets | **hydrochloric acid** [HCl] a strong acid that is commonly used in the laboratory to produce chlorides | **laboratory acids** the acids (including hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, sulphuric acid) that are used in most laboratories | **lactic acid** a weak acid, that is found in sour milk | **malic acid** a sour-tasting chemical that is found in unripe fruit, especially apples | **methanoic acid** [HCOOH] formic acid, the irritant that is in the sting of ants and nettles | **mineral acids** any acid that does not contain carbon, the common laboratory acids | **nitric acid** [HNO<sub>3</sub>] a strong acid that is found in most laboratories and produces nitrates | **nucleic acids** the very long molecules found in the nucleus that contain the genetic instructions | **phosphoric acid** [H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>] the strong acid produced when phosphorus pentoxide dissolves in water | **sorbic acid** [C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>7</sub>COOH] an organic acid that is used as a food preservative because it inhibits the growth of microbes, but can be used by animal cells | **stearic acid** the acid found in soap | **stomach acid** the hydrochloric acid that is found in the stomach | **strong acid** chemical that produce a solution with a pH below 3 even when dilute, eg hydrochloric acid | **sulfuric acid / sulphuric acid** [H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>] a laboratory acid that is used to produce sulfates / sulphates | **tartaric acid** [(CHOHCOOH)<sub>2</sub>] an acid found in many fruits, especially grapes | **weak acid** a liquid with a pH that is near to, but below, pH 7, eg a concentrated solution of citric acid has a pH of 5

**"acid"** the illegal drug that causes hallucinations, LSD

**acidic** is similar to the word acid, meaning below pH 7 | **acid conditions** where the liquid or gas