# SHORT QUESTIONS

# Q.1 What is order of reactivity of HX with ethene?

**Ans.** Ethene reacts with HX to form ethyl halide.

$$CH_2 = CH_2 + HX \longrightarrow CH_3 - CH_2X$$

The order of reactivity of HX is given below.

#### Q.2 What is substrate?

**Ans.** The molecule at which another substance attacks is called substrate. For example, when a nucleophile attacks on RX, the alkyl halide is substrate. When enzyme reacts with any species, it is also called substrate.

## Q.3 In tertiary alkyl halides, $S_N1$ reaction takes place but not $S_N2$ reaction why?

**Ans.** In tertiary alkys halide, a nucleophile cannot attack directly at the electrophilic centre due to stearic hindrance. First of all ionization of alkylhalide takes place and carbocation is formed.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
R & R R \\
 & \searrow & \swarrow \\
R & & \searrow & \swarrow \\
 & & & | & & | \\
 & & & & | & & |
\end{array}$$

Now nucleophile can attack from either side of carbon plane.

### Q.4 Why reaction of ethylbromide with OH<sup>-</sup> nucleophile is S<sub>N</sub>2?

Ans. Reaction of ethyl bromide with  $OH^-$  is  $S_N2$  because it is bimolecular reaction. The rate of reaction depends upon the concentration of nucleophile as well as substrate.

$$CH_3 - CH_2 - Br + OH^- \longrightarrow CH_3 - CH_2OH + Br^-$$
  
Rate = K[CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Br][OH<sup>-</sup>]

# Q.5 Secondary alkyl halides undergo $S_N1$ or $S_N2$ reactions, while primary alkyl halides have $S_N2$ and tertiary alkyl halides have $S_N1$ reactions, why?

**Ans.** In secondary alkyl halides two alkyl group are attacked with  $\alpha$ -carbon.

The reaction kinetic depends upon the size of alkyl group and nature of solvent used.

If alkyl groups have higher size,  $S_N1$  reaction takes places due to stearic hindrance. This reaction takes place in two steps. Polar solvent also favours  $S_N1$  mechanism. If alkyl groups have smaller size than  $S_N2$  reaction takes place in single step. Non-polar solvent also favours the  $S_N2$  mechanism.

#### Q.6 First step of E<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>N</sub>1 mechanism is same but second is different. Explain it.

**Ans.** In  $E_1$  or  $S_N 1$  first step is formation of carbocation.

