CHEM1102 2009-N-8 November 2009

• Bromide **A** undergoes a reaction with hydroxide ions (OH⁻) to produce alcohol **C**. Complete the mechanism by adding curly arrows to illustrate the bonding changes that take place in the conversion of **A** to **B** and from **B** to **C**.

Marks 5

What is the name of the reaction taking place when **A** is converted to **C** via carbocation intermediate **B**?

S_N1 reaction (nucleophilic substitution, unimolecular)

What is the stereochemical outcome of this reaction? Give reasons for your answer.

The product is racemic because the intermediate carbocation (B) is planar. Attack by OH⁻ is therefore equally likely from either top or bottom, leading to equimolar amounts of the two enantiomers.

Alcohol **C** can be further reacted with reagent **D** to generate ester **E**. Provide a structure of a suitable reagent **D** for the synthesis of ester **E** from alcohol **C**.

The acid chloride, CH_3CH_2COCl , or the acid anhydride, $(CH_3CH_2CO)_2O$, would be used.