Marks • Benzene can undergo an S_EAr reaction with bromine, Br_2 , as shown below. 9 Demonstrate your understanding of this reaction by adding curly arrows to complete the mechanism. Η Br . Br H-Br Explain what each part of the abbreviation S_EAr means. S = substitutionE = electrophilic Ar = aromatic Identify one nucleophile and one electrophile in the scheme above. nucleophile electrophile C=C in step (i). Br⁻ in step (ii) Br₂ in step (i). Carbocation in step (ii). Iron(III) bromide, FeBr₃, is often added to the reaction shown above. Why? It is a catalyst. Br₂ attaches weakly to it causing the non-polar Br-Br bond to become polarised with a partial positive charge on one end. This makes it more electrophilic. 2-Chloropyridine can undergo the following reaction with sodium cyanide. NaCN + NaCl C1CN This reaction also proceeds via a two-step mechanism and an ionic (*i.e.* charged) intermediate. Apply your understanding of organic reactions to propose a mechanism for this reaction. Θ CN CN C cι^Θ CN

ANSWER CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

If the reaction of benzene shown above is S_EAr , how would you classify this reaction of chloropyridine?

S_NAr (nucleophilic)



E

Marks

5

• In the electrophilic aromatic substitution (S_EAr) of pyrrole, the 2-substituted derivative is the major product.



Draw the cationic (Wheland-type) intermediate formed during reaction at the 2-position, and the equivalent intermediate formed during reaction at the 3-position. Using these structures, explain why reaction at the 2-position is faster, and leads to the major product.

Substitution at position 2 gives 3 canonical forms for the Wheland intermediate, *versus* only 2 for the substitution at position 3.



The intermediate with the greater number of resonance structures is the more stable and leads to the major product.

