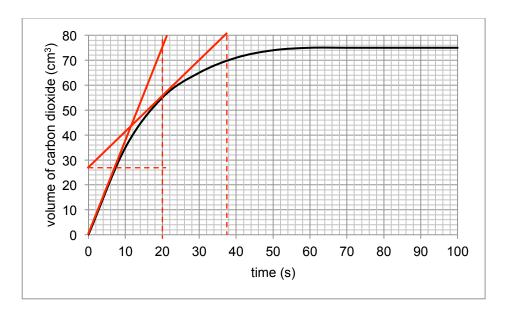


A student carried out an experiment where she recorded the volume of carbon dioxide gas formed as calcium carbonate reacts with hydrochloric acid.

$$CaCO_3(s) + 2HCl(aq) \rightarrow CaCl_2(aq) + H_2O(l) + CO_2(g)$$

The graph shows how the volume of carbon dioxide varied with time.



1 Calculate the mean rate of reaction in the first 20 seconds in cm³/s

rate =
$$\frac{55}{20}$$
 = 2.8 cm³/s

2 Draw a tangent to the graph to find the rate at 0 seconds in cm³/s

rate =
$$\frac{76-0}{20-0}$$
 = 3.8 cm³/s

3 Draw a tangent to the graph to find the rate at 20 seconds in cm³/s

rate =
$$\frac{80-27}{37-0}$$
 = 1.4 cm³/s

4 Explain why the rate is fastest at the beginning and then slows down and stops.

fastest at start: most reactant particles so high frequency of successful collisions slows down: fewer reactant particles so lower frequency of successful collisions stops: no reactant particles so no successful collisions

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