

NEET/JEE • CHEMISTRY • SOLUTIONS • UNIT 1.1

Types of Solutions

JEE Weightage: Low

9 combinations of solid/liquid/gas — one definition trap.

Key Vocabulary

Solution — homogeneous mixture of two or more components.

Solvent — component present in the **LARGEST** quantity; decides physical state.

Solute — everything else in the mixture.



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$$E=mc^2$$



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The Battlefield Map

	Solid	Liquid	Gas
Gaseous Solvent	Solid in Gas Camphor + N ₂	Liquid in Gas Chloroform + N ₂	Gas in Gas O ₂ + N ₂
Liquid Solvent	Solid in Liquid Glucose in H ₂ O	Liquid in Liquid Ethanol in H ₂ O	Gas in Liquid O ₂ in H ₂ O
Solid Solvent	Solid in Solid Cu in Au	Liquid in Solid Hg-Na amalgam	Gas in Solid H ₂ in Pd

Trap: Solvent $\neq$ “the liquid one”

Solvent is defined by the **AMOUNT** present, not by being a liquid — H_2 dissolved in solid Pd still makes Pd the solvent and H_2 the solute.

German silver = Cu + Zn + Ni. Which is the solvent?

Zinc (Zn)

Nickel (Ni)

Copper (Cu) ✓

(Cu is approx. 50-60% by mass, making it the largest quantity and therefore the solvent).

Key Takeaways

- **Identify** the solvent by quantity, not by physical state.
- **Recognize** all 9 solid/liquid/gas combinations from Table 1.1.
- **Watch** for gas-in-solid and solid-in-solid traps in MCQs.



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