

Chemguide – answers

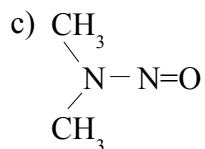
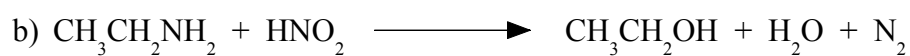
AMINES: REACTIONS WITH NITROUS ACID

1. Acidify the amine with dilute hydrochloric acid and then add sodium or potassium nitrite solution.

2. a) Primary amine: You would get a burst of colourless, odourless gas.

Secondary amine: You get a yellow oil produced (but no gas).

Tertiary amine: You just get a colourless solution



The compound formed (a nitrosamine) is very carcinogenic.

