## Chemguide - questions

## HALOGENOALKANES: REACTIONS WITH AMMONIA

- 1. Halogenoalkanes react with ammonia to form amines, which come in three kinds primary, secondary and tertiary. Draw the structures of
  - a) a primary amine based on the methyl group, CH<sub>3</sub>
  - b) a secondary amine based on a methyl group and an ethyl group, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>
  - c) a tertiary amine based only on methyl groups
- 2. Give the conditions for the reaction of bromoethane with ammonia.
- 3. When bromoethane reacts with ammonia, the equations for the initial reaction (taken from the Chemguide page) are

Equation 1: 
$$CH_3CH_2Br + NH_3 \longrightarrow CH_3CH_2NH_3 + Br$$
Equation 2:  $CH_3CH_2NH_3 + Br + NH_3 \longrightarrow CH_3CH_2NH_2 + NH_4 + Br$ 

- a) What type of compound is the product in the first equation? Name it.
- b) Explain what is happening in the second equation.
- c) Like ammonia, the organic product of the second reaction can also react with bromoethane in a similar pair of equations. Write those equations, making sure that you show the structure of the products clearly.
- d) More reactions can occur, leading to various other products, getting increasingly complicated. Draw the structure of the *final* organic product in the sequence.
- e) Suppose you wanted to maximise your chances of forming mainly ethylamine (the organic product in equation 2 above). How would you achieve that? Explain your answer.