

characteristic group (in organic nomenclature)

A single heteroatom, for example, $-\text{Cl}$ and $=\text{O}$; a heteroatom bearing one or more hydrogen atoms or other heteroatoms, for example, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$ and IO_2 ; or a heteroatomic group attached to or containing a single carbon atom, for example, $-\text{CHO}$, $-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$, $-\text{COOH}$ and $-\text{NCO}$, attached to a parent hydride.

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