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**Question 24** (6 marks)

(a) Using an example, describe the primary function of the following additives.

(i) Emulsifiers

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Emulsifiers are used to allow for oil and water substances to attract to one another and mix, allowing for the development of an emulsion i.e. egg and vinegar added to oil or mayonnaise.

(ii) Humectants

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Humectants are used to obtain a certain moisture content within a product, they reduce the likelihood of product drying out and becoming less safe to consume.

(b) What are the advantages of using an additive code numbering system in food labelling?

2

The advantages are that because there are so many additives it is much easier to print the number on labels than to write out the name. As well as the numbers are grouped depending on their additive i.e. humectants, colouring etc. This means consumers can assume what type of additives are in their food without needing to know the entire numbering system.