WORKSHOP, Chapter 15

Alcohol Reactions and Syntheses

1. When ethanol is added to chromic acid, $CrO_3/H_2SO_4/H_2O$, the solution changes from orange to blue-green. This reaction forms the basis of the "Breathalyzer" test used to catch drunk drivers. Write a balanced equation for the reaction.

2. When an alcohol reacts with $SOCl_2$ /pyridine, the derivative shown below is formed. If the reactant alcohol is (S)-1-deuterioethanol, the product is (R)-1-deuterioethyl chloride. Clearly explain how the formation of this intermediate facilitates the conversion of the alcohol to the corresponding alkyl chloride. Explain the stereochemical change.

 $\mathsf{RCH}_2\mathsf{OH} + \mathsf{SOCI}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{pyridine}} \mathsf{R}^{\mathsf{CH}_2} \xrightarrow{\mathsf{O}}^{\mathsf{S}} \mathsf{CI}^{\mathsf{I}} + \bigoplus_{\substack{\mathsf{H} \\ \mathsf{H} \\ \mathsf{CI}} \Theta} \mathsf{O}_{\mathsf{I}}^{\mathsf{I}}$

3. Show how to prepare each of the two compounds below using Grignard coupling reactions for the C-C bond-forming steps. All the carbons in the products must originate from benzene or alcohols having three or fewer carbon atoms. You may use any needed reagents or solvents.

