Problem 2)

- a) $\rho_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{r},t) = \rho_1(\mathbf{r},t) + \rho_2(\mathbf{r},t).$
- b) $\boldsymbol{J}_{\text{total}}(\boldsymbol{r},t) = \rho_1(\boldsymbol{r},t)\boldsymbol{V}_1(\boldsymbol{r},t) + \rho_2(\boldsymbol{r},t)\boldsymbol{V}_2(\boldsymbol{r},t).$
- c) No. The continuity equation is based on the principle of conservation of charge. Since *individual* species 1 and 2 in this example are *not* conserved, the continuity equation does *not* apply to them as separate entities. For example, the change of charge density with time, ∂ρ₁/∂t or ∂ρ₂/∂t, may have nothing to do with the inflow or outflow of charge produced by the local *V*·*J*₁(*r*,*t*) or *V*·*J*₂(*r*,*t*). Rather, the change of charge density may be caused by recombination of the two species.
- d) Yes, the combined system satisfies the continuity equation $\nabla \cdot J_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{r},t) + \partial \rho_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{r},t)/\partial t = 0$, because the total charge is a conserved entity. When, for example, Na⁺ and Cl⁻ ions in a salt solution combine, we lose one unit of positive charge *and* one unit of negative charge, but the total amount of charge in the system remains the same.