**Regents Chemistry:** 

# Notes: Unit 12 Electrochemistry



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# Name:

#### **KEY IDEAS:**

- An oxidation-reduction (redox) reaction involves the transfer of electrons (e-). (3.2d)
- Reduction is the gain of electrons. (3.2e)
- A half-reaction can be written to represent reduction. (3.2f)
- Oxidation is the loss of electrons. (3.2g)
- A half-reaction can be written to represent oxidation. (3.2h)
- In a redox reaction the number of electrons lost is equal to the number of electrons gained. (3.3b)
- Oxidation numbers (states) can be assigned to atoms and ions. Changes in oxidation numbers indicate that oxidation and reduction have occurred. (3.2i)
- An electrochemical cell can be either voltaic or electrolytic. In an electrochemical cell, oxidation occurs at the anode and reduction at the cathode. (3.2j)
- A voltaic cell spontaneously converts chemical energy to electrical energy. (3.2k)
- An electrolytic cell requires electrical energy to produce chemical change. This process is known as electrolysis. (3.21)

• Determine the oxidation numbers of atoms and ion is a chemical reaction

Problem: What is electricity and how is it formed?

In electrochemical reactions, electrons are transferred from one species to another.

In order to keep track of what loses electrons and what gains them, we assign



# **Rules for Assigning Oxidation Numbers**

 Uncombined elements (not combined with any other element) have an oxidation # of ZERO (this includes diatomic elements)
 *Example:* Na = 0

 $Cl_2 = 0$ 

2. If an element has only one charge listed on the periodic table, then that is its oxidation number *when in a compound*.

Example: Group 1 are always +1 and group 2 are always +2

3. If a nonmetal atom is the negative ion in an ionic compound, then the top charge listed is its oxidation state (*recall from building ionic formulas from names*) *Examples: HF* 

NaCl

4. H is +1 in the front and -1 in the back.

Examples: H3P	P is -3	H is +1
LiH	Li must be +1	H is -1

THIS IS A GENERAL RULE...H with a metal acts as a nonmetal (-1); otherwise +1

**5.** The Sum of the oxidation #'s in a compound must = ZERO. Be sure to multiply the oxidation # by the # of atoms indicated by the subscript.

Example: CaCl<sub>2</sub>

#### 6. Sum of the oxidation # in an ion must equal the charge of the ion listed

*Example:*  $Cr_2O_7^{2-}$  Cr: 2(+6) = +12<u>O: 7(-2) = -14</u> -2

7. If an element has more than one charge listed, use the other charges to figure it out.

- Assign oxidation number to elements with 1 oxidation # first.
- Assign it an oxidation number which will make the compound = ZERO

*Example:* FeCl<sub>3</sub>

#### Example: Determine the Oxidation Number of each atom

Sn	= 0		
N2	= 0		
Cl-	= -1		
Ca <sup>+2</sup>	= +2		
LiF	Li= +1 F=-1		
NaBrOa	B Na= +1 0= -2 Br= +5		
MgSO <sub>4</sub>	Mg= +1 O= -2 S= +6		
CaClO <sub>3</sub>	Ca= +2 O= -2 Cl= +4		

# Lesson 1: Oxidation Numbers

#### NOT IN VIDEO - will cover in class

### **Exceptions to the rule (oxygen):**

Oxygen is -2 except when bonded to fluorine

<i>Example:</i> OF <sub>2</sub>	F must be -1	0 is +2
1 in norovidoa		

Oxygen is -1 in peroxides

*Example:*  $K_2O_2$  each K is +1 0 is -1

- Determine if a reaction is a Redox reaction
- Determine which species is oxidized and which is reduced

**REDOX** Reactions = Reactions involving the transfer of electrons

**OXIDATION:** LOSS OF ELECTRONS by an atom or ion

- OXIDATION NUMBER goes UP/INCREASES because negative charges (electrons) are lost
- Becomes more (+) charged

**REDUCTION:** GAIN OF ELECTRONS by an atom or ion

- OXIDATION NUMBER goes DOWN/REDUCES because negative charges (electrons) are gained
- Becomes MORE (-) charged

# **EXAMPLE:**

Zn(s) +	$-2 H^{+}(aq)$	$) \longrightarrow Zn^{2+}(aq)$	$+ H_2(g)$
0	+1	+2	0

- Zinc loses two electrons (oxidized) to go from neutral zinc metal to the Zn<sup>2+</sup> ion
- Each of the  $H^+$  gains an electron (reduced) and they combine to form  $H_2$

Trick: LEO (the lion says...) GER

LEO:

GER:

# Lesson 2: Identifying a REDOX Reaction

**EXAMPLE:** Oxidation #'s can change as a result of a rxn.

2Na + Cl <sub>2</sub> -> 2NaCl	Na went from 0 to +1:	Na is OXIDIZED
	Cl went from 0 to -1:	Cl is REDUCED

**EXAMPLE:** Oxidation #'s can change as a result of a rxn.

$H_2 + O_2 \rightarrow$	2H <sub>2</sub> O	H went from 0 to +1:	H is OXIDIZED
		0 went from 0 to -2:	O is REDUCED

#### **\*\*\*Tip:** For Polyatomic Ions

- If the polyatomic ion is unchanged (single or double replacement), you can use the charge of the entire ion (Look up charge on TABLE E)
- This is the oxidation # (easier than assigning oxidation numbers to each individual atom)
- Ex. NO<sub>3</sub>-1

**SPECTATOR IONS:** The ion that does have a change in oxidation #

- $Cu^0 + 2Ag^{+1}NO_3^{-1} \longrightarrow Cu^{+2}(NO_3)_2^{-1} + 2Ag^0$
- NO<sub>3</sub>- is the spectator ion

#### **EXAMPLE:**

Li + NaF  $\rightarrow$  Na + LiF

 $\mathrm{K_{2}O}+\mathrm{Li} \xrightarrow{\phantom{*}} \mathrm{Li_{2}O}+\mathrm{K}$ 

 $2Na + Cl_2 \rightarrow NaCl$ 

 $LiClO_3 \rightarrow LiClO + O_2$ 

Charges added here to compounds to show oxidation states – remember compound formulas as normally written do not include any charges!!

#### **ARE THESE REDOX REACTIONS?**

 $NaClO_3 \rightarrow 2NaCl + 3O_2$  Yes

 $Li + F_2 \rightarrow LiF$  Yes

 $Mg + 2HNO_3 \rightarrow Mg(NO_3)_2 + H_2$  Yes

NaOH + LiBr  $\rightarrow$  LiOH + NaBr No

#### TRICK:

• Single Replacement Rx's are <u>ALWAYS</u> Redox

 $Zn(s) + HCl(aq) \rightarrow H_2(g) + ZnCl_2(aq)$ 

• Double Replacement Rx's are <u>NEVER</u> redox

 $NaOH_{(aq)} + HCl_{(aq)} \rightarrow H_2O_{(l)} + NaCl_{(aq)}$ 

#### NOT IN VIDEO – WILL DISCUSS IN LATER LESSON:

#### CAN THESE REACTIONS HAPPEN SPONTANEOUSLY?

- **SPONTANEOUS REACTION** = occurs w/out adding energy to system
- If the "single" element is more active than the "combined" element, the reaction will be spontaneous.

Ex:  $Zn + PbCl_2 \rightarrow ZnCl_2 + Pb$ 

• NON SPONTANEOUS REACTION = Reaction WILL NOT occur unless energy is added to system

Ex: Zn + AlCl<sub>3</sub>  $\rightarrow$  No rxn

#### **EXAMPLE:**

Comparing nickel and aluminum. Which would be oxidized and which would be reduced? (the higher element on Table J always gets to do what it wants, metals to lose electrons, non-metals to gain them.

Oxidized: Al

Reduced: Ni

- Compose redox half reactions
- Construct a balanced redox reaction

**HALF REACTIONS:** Show either the oxidation or reduction portion of a redox reaction, including the **electrons gained or lost**.

Every redox reaction consists of:



Careful...To balance the O<sub>2</sub> reduction, remember you need 2 electrons per oxygen atom and you end up with 2 oxygen ions.

# **Rules for Setting Up Half Reactions:**

- 1. Assign oxidation numbers to all elements in reaction and determine if it is a redox reaction (look for the change in oxidation # of 2 elements
- 2. Determine which species is oxidized (loses electrons) and which is reduced (gains electrons) [use brackets].
- 3. Then break the overall reaction into oxidation and reduction reactions called HALF REACTIONS by pulling out brackets. \*\*\*spectator ions (those that do not change oxidation states) are left out of the half reactions.
- 4. Fill in electrons for each half reaction:

oxidation: electrons (lost) on right side

reduction: electrons (gained) on left side

5. Check to see if charges are equal on both sides of each half reaction

#### EXAMPLE:



**EXAMPLE:** Set up both half reactions for the following reaction:

 $Ca(s) + Cu^{2+}(aq) \rightarrow Ca^{2+}(aq) + Cu(s)$ 

#### **Balancing Redox Reactions**

In All redox reactions there is a **CONSERVATION** of:

- MASS
- CHARGE

#### **Steps to balance redox reactions:**

- 1. Write out the 2 half reactions (including electrons)
- 2. Multiply the half-reactions by the number of electrons in the other half-reaction
- 3. Multiply through and put the resulting coefficients into the original equation

EXAMPLE:

$$Cu + AgNO_3 \rightarrow Cu(NO_3)_2 + Ag$$

$$Cu^{0} \rightarrow Cu^{+2} + 2e$$
-

Red: 
$$2(Ag^{+1} + 1e \rightarrow Fe^{0})$$
  $2Ag^{+1} + 2e \rightarrow Fe^{0}$   
Cu +  $2AgNO_{3} \rightarrow Cu(NO_{3})_{2} + 2Ag$ 

0

**EXAMPLE:** Balance this Reaction

 $Ca(s) + Cu^{2+}(aq) \rightarrow Ca^{2+}(aq) + Cu(s)$ 

**EXAMPLE:** Balance this Reaction

 $K + ZnCl_2 \rightarrow KCl + Zn$ 

# Lesson 4: Electrochemical Cells (Voltaic Cell or Battery)

# **Objective:**

- Determine the flow of electrons in a battery (voltaic cell)
- Identify the anode and cathode in a voltaic cell

Problem: What is electricity and how is it formed?

- In a spontaneous redox rxn, electrons are transferred and ENERGY is released.
- This energy can be used to do work is a voltaic cell

# Voltaic Cell (battery)

- SPONTANEOUS redox reaction
  - Converts <u>chemical energy</u> into <u>electrical energy</u>
- The flow of electrons produces electricity

#### How does a voltaic cell work?

- Electrons flow SPONTANEOUSLY from the **ANODE** (more active metal) to the **CATHODE** (less active metal) [see Table J]
- <u>Anode</u>: Negative electrode where oxidation (loss of e-) occurs
- <u>Cathode</u>: Positive electrode where reduction (gain of e-) occurs

#### Remember: AN OX RED CAT

#### **EXAMPLE:**

- Zn is higher on table J so electrons flow from Zn to Cu.
- Zn is anode and Cu is cathode



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# Lesson 4: Electrochemical Cells (Voltaic Cell or Battery)

# Parts of a Voltaic Cell

- 2 half cells (1 for oxidation and 1 for reduction half reactions)
- Electrodes (site of ox and red)
- Wire (connects to electrodes- *allows electrons to flow*)
- Salt Bridge (allows ions to flow and prevents polarization of cells
- Voltmeter (measures electric current)

#### How to Label a Voltaic Cell

- 1. Determine which electrode is the anode and which is the cathode
- 2. Identify where oxidation and reduction take place
- 3. Determine the direction of electron flow \*\*\*\*Remember:
  - $\circ \quad \text{Red Cat}$
  - o An Ox



- More active metal is oxidized
- ELECTRONS flow from **HIGH** to **LOW**



#### What happens to the electrodes as electrons flow?

- Cathode (Cu) increases in mass (FAT RED CAT)
- Anode (Zn) decreases in mass (EATS AN OX)



# Function of the Salt Bridge

- The salt bridge allows for the flow of ions to prevent a build up of charge at each electrode
- Positive ions flow to cathode
- Negative ions flow to anode

#### Removing the salt bridge would result in:

• The voltage will go to zero because electrons stop flowing.

**EXAMPLE:** Label the following: anode, cathode, where ox and red take place and direction of e- flow and which electrode increases in mass and which decreases in mass



•	Ni is oxidized (anode)
•	Ag is reduced (cathode)
•	Electrons flow from Ni to Ag
•	Ag electrode increases in
	mass and Ni decreases in
	mass

**EXAMPLE:** Label the following: anode, cathode, where ox and red take place and direction of e- flow and which electrode increases in mass and which decreases in mass



- Identify an electrolytic cell
- Differentiate between an electrolytic cell and a voltaic cell

# **ELECTROLYTIC CELL:**

- Non-Spontaneous reaction
- Outside **power source** must be supplied to transfer electrons
- Converts **<u>electrical energy</u>** into **<u>chemical energy</u>**.
- Oxidation still takes place at the anode and reduction at the cathode and electrons travel from anode to cathode, **SO** their **CHARGES** are **REVERSED** (cathode and anode +)

# **ELECTROPLATING:**

• The process of adding a layer (plate) of metal on the surface of another object.

Ex. Gold plated jewelry & Chrome Bumpers

# **ELECTROPLATING PROCESS:**

- The battery forces electrons to travel to the spoon.
- The spoon is negative and will attract Silver (+) ions.
- The silver ions will reduce (stick) onto the spoon, plating it.
- The Ag bar anode loses e- and will eventually disappear.

# At the anode:

 $Ag \rightarrow Ag^+ + 1e^-$ 

At the cathode:

 $Ag^+ + 1e \rightarrow Ag$ 



#### **COMPARISON BETWEEN ELECTROLYTIC AND VOLTAIC CELLS**







1. Identify the cathode in the cell.

The Ni key

# 2. What is the purpose of the battery?

To force a nonspontaneous reaction