

What are Oxidation-Reduction Reactions?

Worksheet

Oxidation is losing electrons; reduction is gaining electrons. In redox reactions, a reducing agent (donates e) and oxidizing agent (accepts e) exchange electrons. Every redox has both.

$$\text{Oxidation state} = (\# \text{ protons}) - (\# \text{ electrons for atom})$$

Questions

- In $\text{Zn} + \text{Cu} \rightarrow \text{Zn}^{2+} + \text{Cu}$, Zn is
 - reduced
 - oxidized
 - both
 - neither
- Oxidizing agent is the species that
 - loses e
 - gains e
 - donates O
 - always oxygen
- Oxidation state of O in CO_2 ?
 - 0
 - 1
 - 2
 - +2
- In combustion, fuel is
 - oxidized
 - reduced
 - neither
 - source of O
- In $\text{Fe} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{FeO}$, identify what is oxidized and reduced.
- Assign oxidation states: HSO_4^- .
- Combustion: $\text{C} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2$. Redox?
- Define: What is oxidation?
- Define: What is reduction?
- Define: Oxidizing agent?

Answer Key

1. B) oxidized - Zn loses electrons (0 \rightarrow +2) - oxidized.
2. B) gains e - Oxidizing agent accepts e (is reduced).
3. C) 2 - O is usually 2; C must be +2 to balance.
4. A) oxidized - Fuel loses e to O - oxidized (is the reducer).
5. Fe: 0 \rightarrow +3 (loses 3e) = oxidized O: 0 \rightarrow 2 (gains 2e) = reduced Fe is the reducing agent; O is the oxidizing agent.
6. H: +1 (always in compounds) S: +6 (must balance: +12 + S + (2)4 = 0) O: 2 (usually) Check: +2 + 6 8 = 0
7. C: 0 \rightarrow +4 (oxidized) O: 0 \rightarrow 2 (reduced) Redox; C is reducer, O is oxidizer.
8. Loss of electrons (or increase in oxidation state).
9. Gain of electrons (or decrease in oxidation state).
10. Species that accepts electrons (is reduced).

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