

Polyatomic Formulae

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Recall the formulae for some common polyatomic ions, eg the sulfate ion is SO_4^{2-}
- 2) Deduce the formula of ionic substances containing polyatomic ions

If a compound contains one polyatomic ion the formula is simple. For example Li^+ joins with OH^- to form LiOH . If there is more than one of the polyatomic ion, it goes in brackets with the number afterwards as a subscript. For example Mg^{2+} joins with 2OH^- to make $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$.

Polyatomic ion	Charge	Formulae
hydroxide	-1	OH^-
sulfate	-2	SO_4^{2-}
carbonate	-2	CO_3^{2-}
nitrate	-1	NO_3^-
ammonium	+1	NH_4^+

As you know you can use the periodic table to work out the charges on the ions from group 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7. There are however 7 monoatomic ions that you came across in the Ions topic in which you cannot use the periodic to work out their charges.

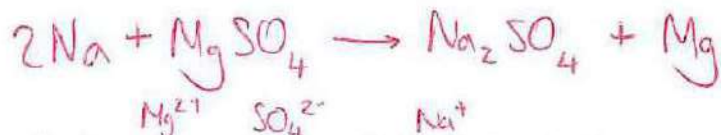
Ion	Formula
hydrogen	H^+
silver	Ag^+
zinc	Zn^{2+}
copper (II)	Cu^{2+}
lead (II)	Pb^{2+}
iron(II)	Fe^{2+}
iron(III)	Fe^{3+}

Ionic compound	Ions in the compound	Formula
Sodium hydroxide	$\text{Na}^{1+} \text{OH}^{1-}$	NaOH
Calcium hydroxide	$\text{Ca}^{2+} \text{OH}^{1-} \text{OH}^{1-}$	Ca(OH)_2
Magnesium sulfate	$\text{Mg}^{2+} \text{SO}_4^{2-}$	MgSO_4
Potassium nitrate	$\text{K}^+ \text{NO}_3^-$	KNO_3
Calcium hydroxide	$\text{Ca}^{2+} \text{OH}^{1-} \text{OH}^{1-}$	Ca(OH)_2
Aluminium nitrate	$\text{Al}^{3+} \text{NO}_3^- \text{NO}_3^- \text{NO}_3^-$	$\text{Al(NO}_3)_3$
Ammonium chloride	$\text{NH}_4^+ \text{Cl}^-$	NH_4Cl
Lithium sulfate	$\text{Li}^+ \text{SO}_4^{2-}$ Li^+	Li_2SO_4
Magnesium carbonate	$\text{Mg}^{2+} \text{CO}_3^{2-}$	MgCO_3
Aluminium sulfate	$\text{Al}^{3+} \text{SO}_4^{2-} \text{SO}_4^{2-} \text{SO}_4^{2-}$ Al^{3+}	$\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$
ammonium oxide	$\text{NH}_4^+ \text{O}^{2-}$ NH_4^+	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{O}$
Lithium carbonate	$\text{Li}^+ \text{CO}_3^{2-}$ Li^+	Li_2CO_3
Potassium hydroxide	$\text{K}^+ \text{OH}^-$	KOH
Lithium <u>nitrite</u>	$\text{Li}^+ \text{NO}_2^-$ Li	LiNO_2
Magnesium nitrate	$\text{Mg}^{2+} \text{NO}_3^- \text{NO}_3^-$	$\text{Mg(NO}_3)_2$
Beryllium sulfate	$\text{Be}^{2+} \text{SO}_4^{2-}$	BeSO_4

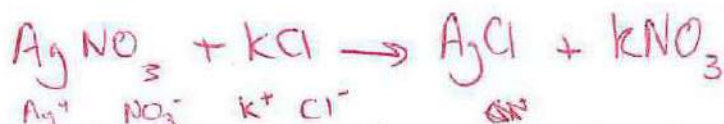
Ionic compound	Ions in the compound	formula
Rubidium sulfate	Rb^+ SO_4^{2-} Rb^+	Rb_2SO_4
ammonium nitrate	NH_4^+ NO_3^-	NH_4NO_3
Caesium nitrate	Cs^+ NO_3^-	CsNO_3
ammonium carbonate	NH_4^+ CO_3^{2-} NH_4^+	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$
Gallium hydroxide	Ga^{3+} OH^- OH^- OH^-	$\text{Ga}(\text{OH})_3$
Zinc sulfate	Zn^{2+} SO_4^{2-}	ZnSO_4
Lead(II) nitrate	Pb^{2+} NO_3^- NO_3^-	$\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$
Silver hydroxide	Ag^+ OH^-	AgOH
Zinc nitrate	Zn^{2+} NO_3^- NO_3^-	$\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$
Hydrogen sulfate	H^+ SO_4^{2-} H^+	H_2SO_4
Iron(II) hydroxide	Fe^{2+} OH^- OH^-	$\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2$
Iron(III) hydroxide	Fe^{3+} OH^- OH^- OH^-	$\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_3$
Copper(II) sulfate	Cu^{2+} SO_4^{2-}	CuSO_4
Copper(II) nitrate	Cu^{2+} NO_3^- NO_3^-	$\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$
Iron(II) nitrate	Fe^{2+} NO_3^- NO_3^-	$\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_2$
Iron(III) carbonate	Fe^{3+} CO_3^{2-} Fe^{3+} CO_3^{2-} CO_3^{2-}	$\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO}_3)_3$

Task: Write the chemical equations for the following reactions. You will need to work out the formulae of the substances and then balance the equation.

- 1) sodium + magnesium sulfate → sodium sulfate + magnesium



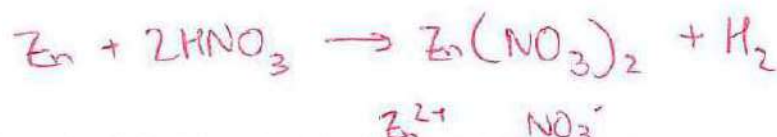
- 2) silver nitrate + potassium chloride → silver chloride + potassium nitrate



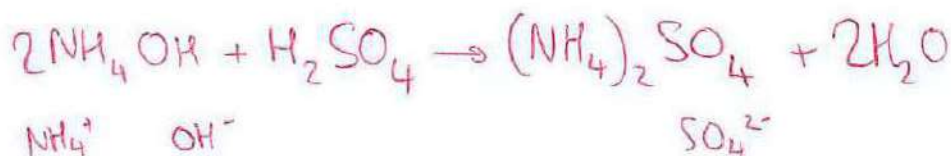
- 3) On heating, strontium carbonate decomposes into strontium oxide and carbon dioxide



- 4) A solution of zinc nitrate is formed when zinc reacts with nitric acid. Hydrogen gas is also given off.



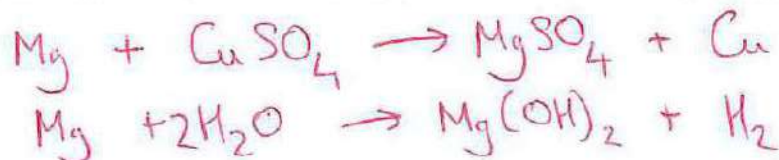
- 5) Ammonium hydroxide reacts with sulfuric acid to form ammonium sulfate and water



- 6) When copper is added to a solution of silver nitrate, a shiny metal is formed



- 7) Challenge. A solution of magnesium sulfate is formed when magnesium reacts with copper sulfate. Hydrogen gas is also given off. (Note: this is a tricky one – there are 2 reactions going on)



Indicators & Neutralisation

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Describe the use of the indicators to distinguish between acidic and alkaline solutions
- 2) Define acids as sources of hydrogen ions, H^+ , and alkalis as sources of hydroxide ions, OH^-

Task: How many different acids and alkalis can you remember?

Acid		Alkali	
Name	Formula	Name	Formula
hydrochloric acid	HCl	sodium hydroxide	NaOH
sulfuric acid	H_2SO_4	ammonium hydroxide	NH_4OH
nitric acid	HNO_3		

Acids in solution are a source of hydrogen ions (H^+)

Alkalis in solution are a source of hydroxide ions (OH^-)

Complete this key acid neutralisation reaction:



Practical

acid + alkali neutralisation



Acids can be neutralised by alkalis to form salt and water:

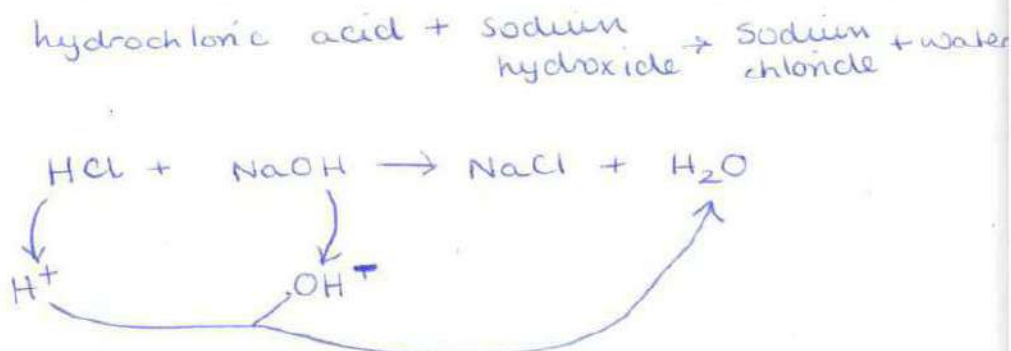


All simple acids contain a hydrogen ion. When that hydrogen ion is replaced by a metal ion, the compound formed is called a **salt**.

Procedure

1. Pipette 2cm³ of HCl into a boiling tube
2. Add a couple of drops of universal indicator
3. Slowly pipette NaOH into the test tube until the colour changes to green
4. If you overshoot the mark, pipette some more HCl into the boiling tube

Task: Write the word and chemical equation for the reaction between hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide

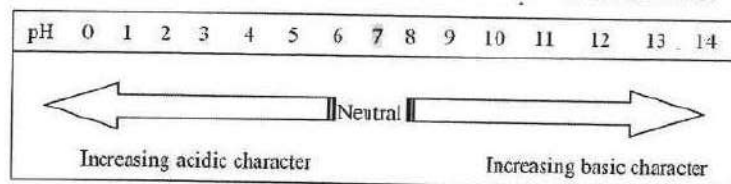


TASK: Label your chemical equation above to show what happens during neutralisation to the hydrogen ion (H⁺) in the acid and the hydroxide ion (OH⁻) ion in the alkali.

This is a simple definition of neutralisation. A better definition of neutralisation is the reaction between an acid and a base to produce water and salt only. An alkali is a soluble base. To see this, we need a more detailed definition of acids and bases.

pH & indicators

The pH scale ranges from about 0 to 14, and tells you how acidic or how alkaline a solution is.



An **indicator** is a substance that has more than one colour form depending on the pH.

Demo / Practical Indicators

There are several other indicators that we use in chemistry. Each indicator has a different colour change.

Using hydrochloric acid & sodium hydroxide determine the colour change of these indicators.

Procedure

1. Pipette 2cm^3 of HCl to a test tube
2. Add a couple of drops of indicator and record the colour change
3. Slowly pipette NaOH into the test tube until there is a colour change. Record this change
4. Repeat the procedure with a different indicator



Indicator	Colour in acidic solution	Colour in alkaline solution
Litmus	red	blue
Methyl orange	red	yellow
Phenolphthalein	colourless	pink
Universal indicator	red / orange	blue / purple

What is different about universal indicator compared to the others?

shows how acidic / alkaline a substance is

Is this an advantage or a disadvantage? Explain why?

The pH scale, from 0–14, can be used to classify solutions as strongly acidic (0–3), weakly acidic (4–6), neutral (7), weakly alkaline (8–10) and strongly alkaline (11–14)

Demonstration of acids and alkalis of differing strength and the colour of Universal Indicator

Universal indicator is a mixture of different dyes which change colour in a gradual way over a range of pH:

Example of substance	Colour of universal indicator	Strength acid/alkali	pH
Hydrochloric acid	red	strong acid	1
Ethanoic acid solution	orange	weak acid	4
Magnesium sulfate solution	yellow	weak acid	6
Distilled Water	green	neutral	7
Sodium chloride solution	green	neutral	7
Magnesium hydroxide	blue	weak alkali	10
Sodium hydroxide	purple	strong alkali	13

Questions on acids, alkalis and indicators

- 1) What colour is phenolphthalein when sodium hydroxide is added? pink
- 2) What colour is methyl orange when nitric acid is added? red
- 3) What colour is litmus when phosphoric acid is added? red
- 4) What colour is methyl orange when a sodium hydroxide is added? yellow
- 5) What colour is phenolphthalein when H_2SO_4 is added? colourless
- 6) Which common indicator solution goes yellow when KOH is added? methyl orange
- 7) What colour is litmus when $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ is added? blue
- 8) What colour is phenolphthalein in distilled water? colourless

Notes: colourless at ≤ 7 , pink > 7

- 9) What colour is universal indicator when added to copper oxide and water? blue

Notes: copper oxide + water is basic

What “type” of compound is this?

For each of the compounds below, say whether it is:

acid or alkali or base or metal or carbonate or salt

Don't worry, you will learn the proper definitions of these words in the next few lessons.

Compound	Type	Compound	Type
Aluminium nitrate	Salt	Lithium sulfate	Salt
Aluminium sulfate	Salt	Magnesium	Metal
ammonium carbonate	Carbonate	Magnesium carbonate	Carbonate
Ammonium chloride	Salt	magnesium hydroxide	Alkali
ammonium hydroxide	Alkali	Magnesium nitrate	Salt
Beryllium sulfate	Salt	magnesium oxide	Base
Caesium nitrate	Salt	nitric acid	Acid
Calcium	Metal	phosphoric acid	Acid
Calcium hydroxide	Alkali	Potassium	Metal
citric acid	Acid	Potassium carbonate	Carbonate
Copper oxide	Base	potassium hydroxide	Alkali
Copper(II) nitrate	Base	Potassium nitrate	Salt
Copper(II) sulfate	Salt	Sodium	Metal
Gold	Metal	sodium hydroxide	Alkali
hydrochloric acid	Acid	sulfuric acid	Acid
Iron	Metal	Zinc carbonate	Carbonate
Iron oxide	Base	Zinc nitrate	Salt
Iron(II) nitrate	Salt	Zinc oxide	Base
Lead oxide	Base	Zinc sulfate	Salt
Lithium carbonate	Carbonate		

Now review your answers. Could some compounds be classified in more than one type? If so, which ones?

Acid + Base

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Recall the definition of an acid, alkali, base and salt
- 2) Describe the neutralisation reaction between an acid and alkali and an acid and base
- 3) Write the word equations for neutralisation reactions

Task: Match up the substance with its correct pH value, colour with universal indicator and description

Substance	pH	Colour	Strength
Water	1	blue	strong alkali
Ammonia	14	green	weak acid
Citric acid	7	red	neutral
Sodium hydroxide	7	orange	strong acid
Salt water	4	purple	neutral
Hydrochloric acid	9	green	weak alkali

Key definitions:

Acids are described as

having a pH of less than 7.

Alkalis are described as

having a pH of more than 7.

A Base is a substance which can

neutralise an acid, forming salt + water only.

A Salt is what is produced when

a hydrogen ion is replaced by a metal ion.

So what do an alkali and a base have in common?

• both neutralise acid

• produce salt + water

What is the difference between an alkali and a base?

• alkali is a soluble base

• bases are not soluble in water

Naming salts

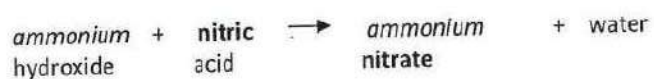
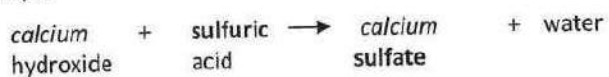
Different salts can be made by neutralising different acids and alkalis:

Hydrochloric acid reacts to give salts called chlorides.

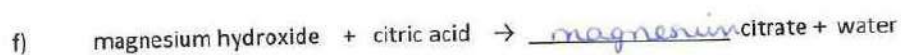
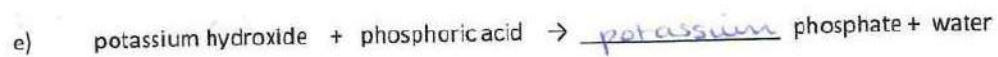
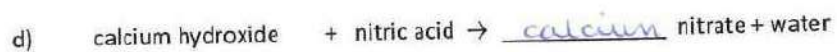
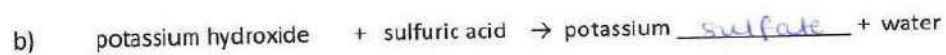
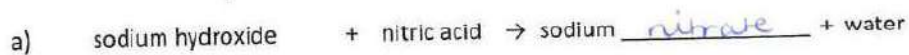
Sulfuric acid reacts to give salts called sulfates.

Nitric acid reacts to give salts called nitrates.

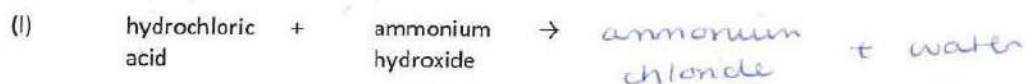
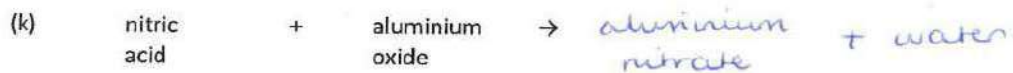
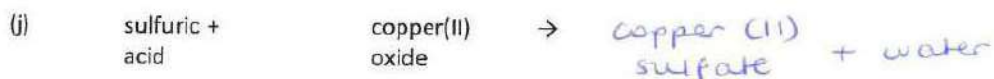
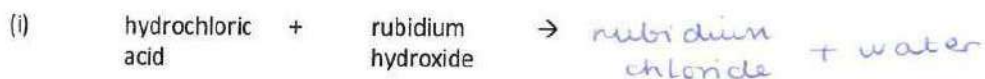
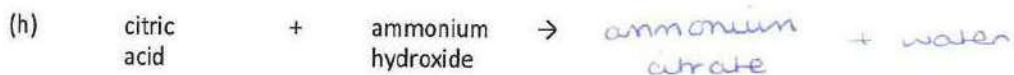
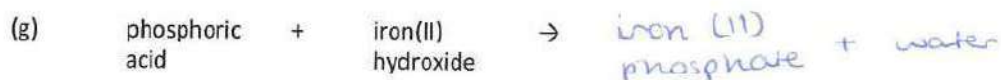
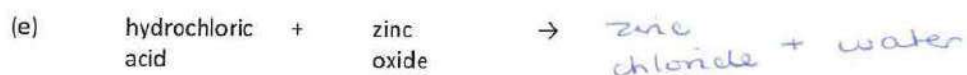
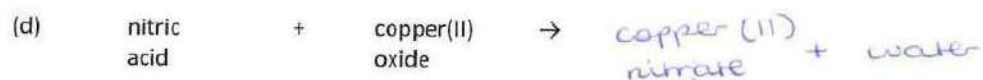
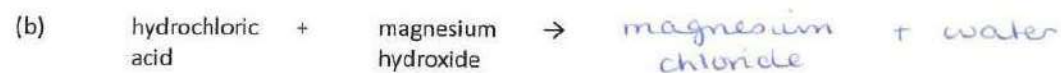
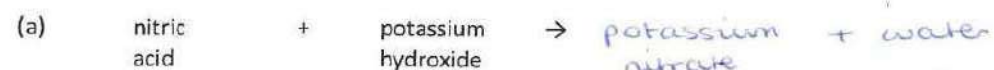
For example



Task: Complete the following word equations



1. Complete the following word equations, setting them out on two lines:



Carbonate + Acid

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Describe the reactions between metal carbonates and acids
- 2) Write the word equations for these reactions



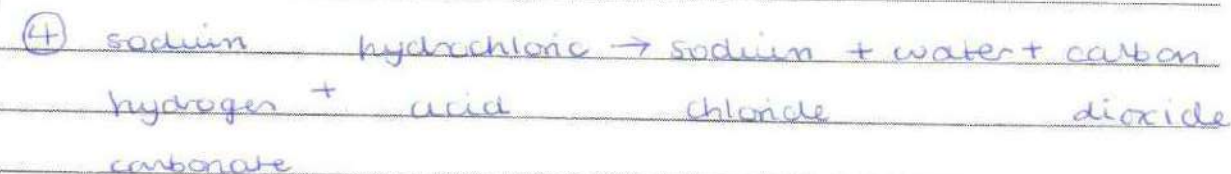
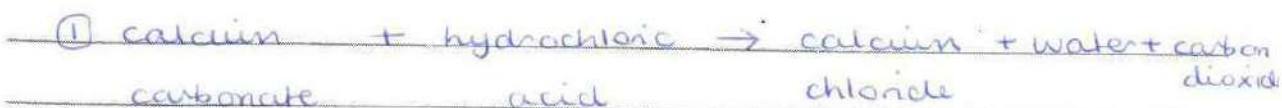
Practical **Carbonates and Acids**

△ Safety *Risk of acid in eyes.*

- Put half a spatula of solid in a test tube and **place in a test tube rack**
- Add a small amount of hydrochloric acid (HCl) and test any gases that are produced.
- Carefully record your observations.

Metal Carbonate	Observation	Gases produced
Calcium carbonate CaCO_3	• Solid disappears / becomes smaller • gas bubbles produced	carbon dioxide
Copper carbonate CuCO_3	• solid disappears / becomes smaller • bubbles	carbon dioxide
Sodium carbonate Na_2CO_3	• solid disappears / becomes smaller • bubbles	carbon dioxide
Sodium hydrogen carbonate NaHCO_3	• solid becomes smaller • bubbles of gas	carbon dioxide

Write the word equations for the reactions carried out today.



Metal + Acid

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Describe the reactions between metals and acids
- 2) Write the word equations for these reactions

Practical

Metals with acid



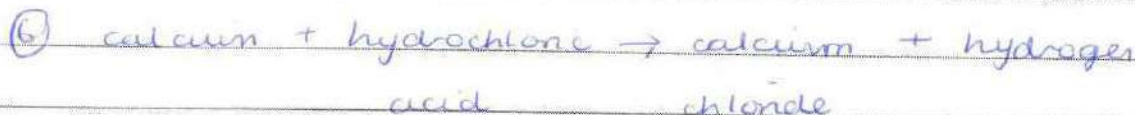
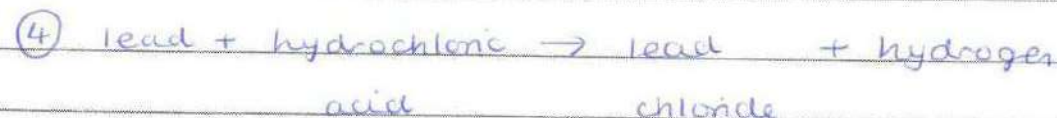
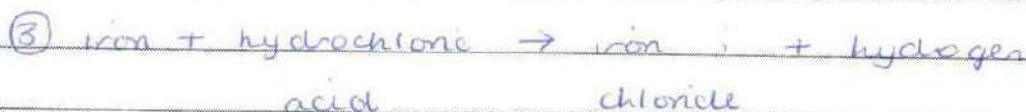
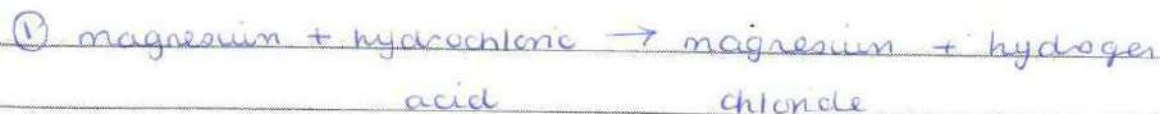
△ Care

Remember how to pour from reagent bottle.

Add about 3 cm³ dilute hydrochloric acid to metal sample (Mg, Zn, Fe, Pb, Cu). Warm if necessary. Collect any gas evolved by holding a second test-tube on top of the first and then test with lighted splint. Dispose of products by pouring into residues container, not down sink.

Metal	Appearance of reaction	Test with lit splint (Hydrogen present or not)
Mg	• Mg disappears • bubbles	✓ squeaky pop
Zn	• Zn disappears • bubbles	✓ "
Fe	• Fe disappears • bubbles	✓ "
Pb	• Pb disappears • bubbles	✓ "
Cu	• Cu disappears • bubbles	✓ "
Ca (demo)	• Ca disappears • bubbles	✓ "

Write the word equations for the reactions carried out today.



Thermal decomposition of metal carbonates

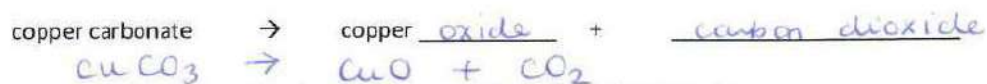
Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Describe the thermal decomposition of metal carbonates
- 2) Write the word equations for these reactions

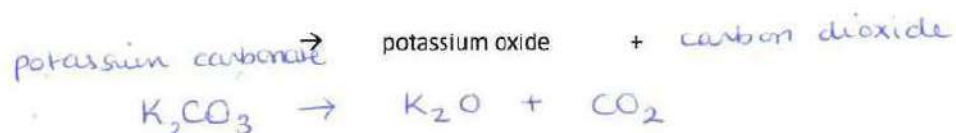
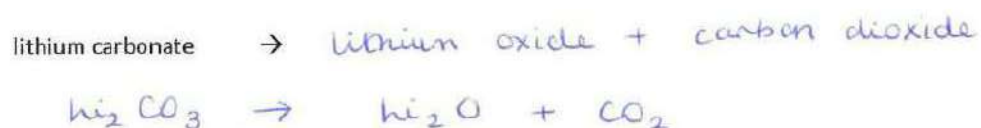
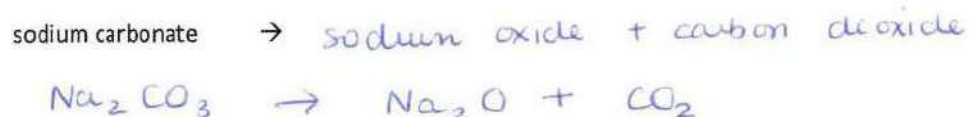
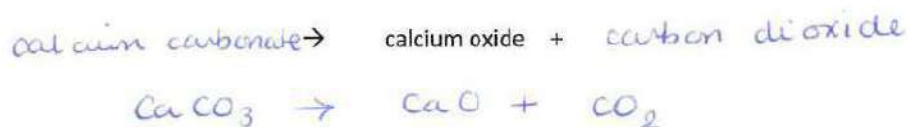
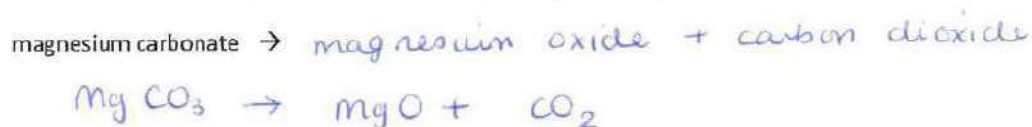
When heated, metal carbonates decompose to form a metal oxide and carbon dioxide:



For example:



Try some more word equations for thermal decomposition of metal carbonates:



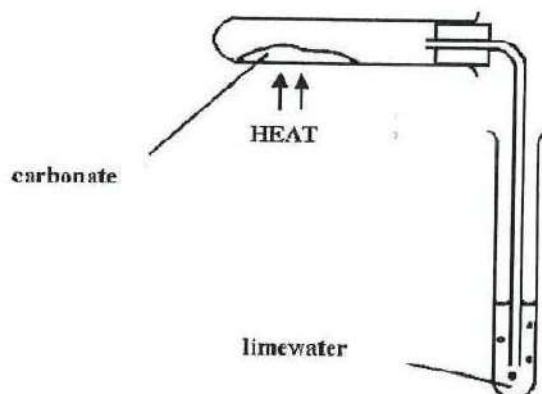
Task: now go back and write the chemical equation for each of the above thermal decomposition reactions.

Practical Thermal decomposition of metal carbonates

- ⚠ **Safety** Test tube gets very hot – take care not to touch!
To prevent suck back, remove lime water before heat is stopped,
Risk of alkali in eyes or on hands.



We will heat a range of metal carbonates.
For each we will measure the mass before and after.
We will also test any gas produced to see if it is carbon dioxide.



Results

Metal carbonate	Formula	Mass before	Mass after	Mass change	Observations of limewater
Copper carbonate	CuCO_3				goes cloudy
Potassium carbonate	K_2CO_3				goes cloudy
Zinc carbonate	ZnCO_3				turns cloudy
					turns cloudy

How can we make sure the reactions had finished?

- Repeat heating until mass does not change
- "repeat until constant mass"

Why did the solid change mass, and what does the change in mass represent?

• loss of CO_2 as a gas

Write the word equations and the chemical equations for the reactions that happened.

① copper carbonate \rightarrow copper oxide + carbon dioxide



② potassium carbonate \rightarrow potassium oxide + carbon dioxide



③ zinc carbonate \rightarrow zinc oxide + carbon dioxide



Extension: For each of the reactions, was the change in mass what we could have expected?

How can we calculate what the change in mass *should* have been in a perfect experiment?

Write the word and chemical equations for the reactions of the following elements and oxygen.

Example

Magnesium reacts with oxygen to give magnesium oxide

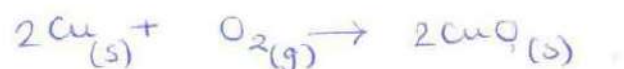
1) Write the correct formulae (Oxygen gas is always O_2). Remember to use the charges on the ions.

2) Balance

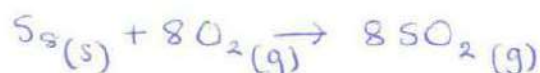
○ magnesium + oxygen → magnesium oxide

○ $2Mg$ + O_2 → $2MgO$

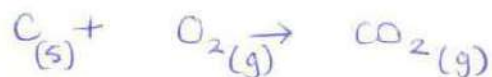
1. Copper reacts with oxygen to give copper(II) oxide → $Cu^{2+} O^{2-}$



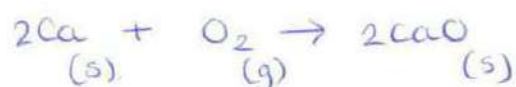
2. Sulfur reacts with oxygen to give sulfur dioxide (SO_2)



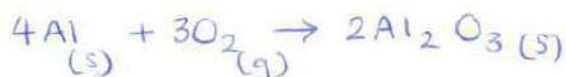
3. Carbon reacts with oxygen to give carbon dioxide (CO_2)



4. Calcium reacts with oxygen to give calcium oxide



5. Aluminium reacts with oxygen to give aluminium oxide → $Al^{3+} O^{2-}$



Now go back and add state symbols to every formula.

Chemical equations

You have learnt the following key reactions:

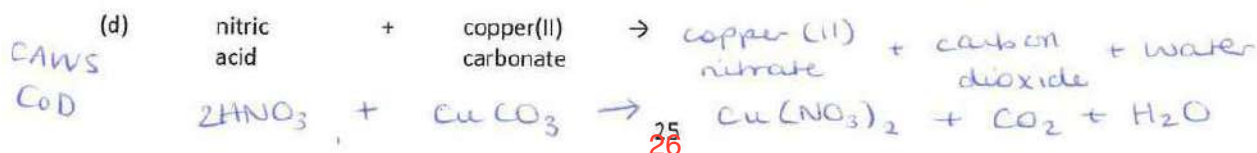
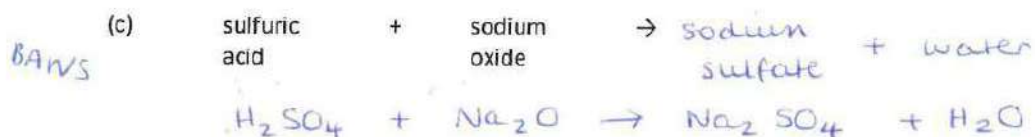
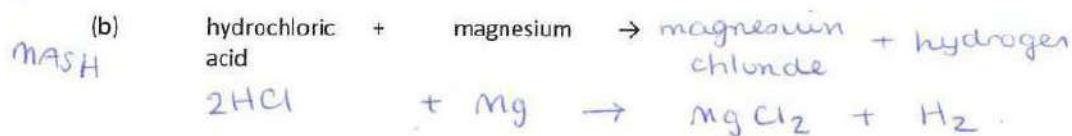
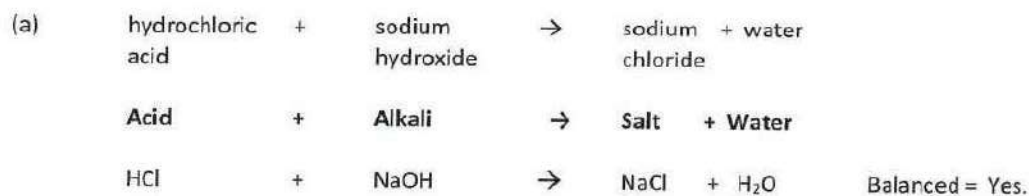
Alkali	+	acid	→	salt	+	water	
Base	+	acid	→	salt	+	water	
Carbonate	+	acid	→	salt	+	water	+ carbon dioxide
Metal	+	acid	→	salt	+	hydrogen	
metal	+	oxygen	→	metal oxide			(NB: oxygen gas is always O ₂)
carbonate			→	metal oxide + carbon dioxide			(thermal decomposition)

Task write chemical equations for the following reactions.

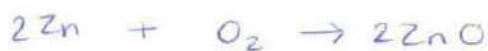
Remember to do the following steps:

- Identify the key reaction in order to help you work out the products
- Work out the correct formulae for the reactants and products
- Balance the whole equation

The first one has been done for you.



(e) Zinc + oxygen → zinc oxide



(f) Magnesium carbonate $\xrightarrow{\text{(heat)}}$ magnesium oxide + carbon dioxide



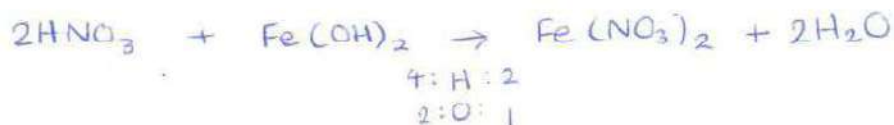
MASH (g) hydrochloric acid + zinc → zinc chloride + hydrogen



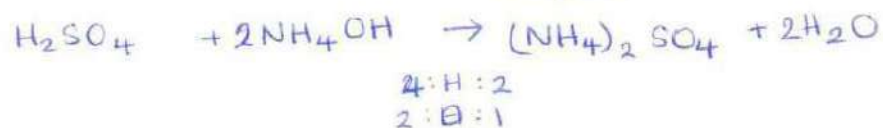
CAWS COD (h) sulfuric acid + calcium carbonate → calcium sulfate + carbon dioxide + water



AAWS (i) Nitric acid + iron(II) hydroxide → iron(II) nitrate + water

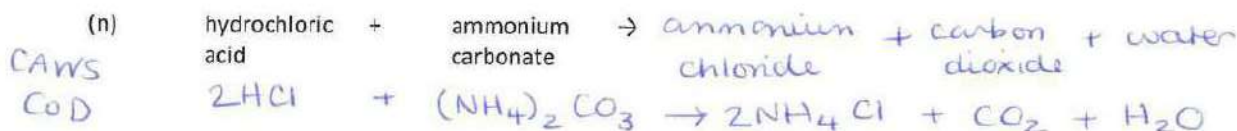
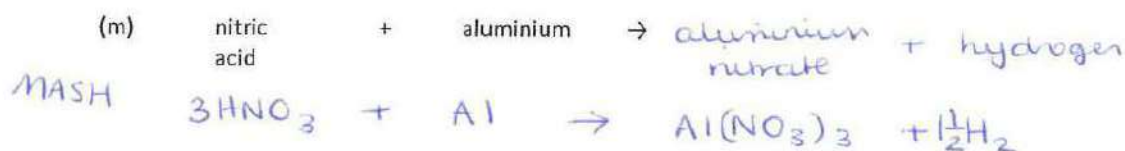
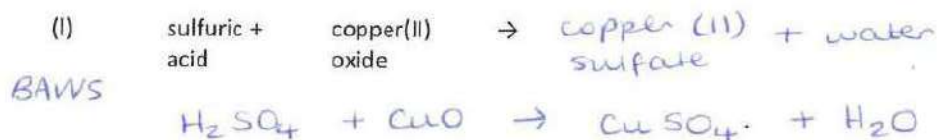


AAWS (j) sulfuric acid + ammonium hydroxide → ammonium sulfate + water



MASH (k) hydrochloric acid + rubidium → rubidium chloride + hydrogen





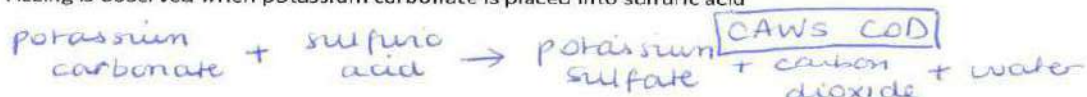
(o) Hydrochloric acid reacts with a piece of aluminium producing a colourless solution and a gas.



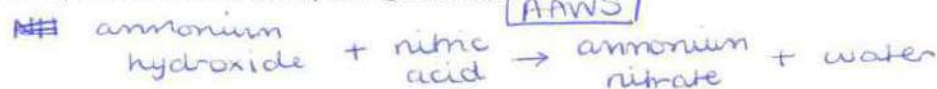
MASH

hydrochloric acid + aluminium \rightarrow aluminium chloride + hydrogen

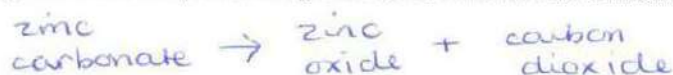
(p) Fizzing is observed when potassium carbonate is placed into sulfuric acid



(q) Ammonium hydroxide is neutralised by adding nitric acid



(r) On heating zinc carbonate produces a gas that is collected and turns limewater cloudy



(s) A black powder of copper oxide is dissolved into warm sulfuric acid. The solution turns blue.



Complete the following cycle using chemical and common names:

