

4 Chemical changes

Reactivity of metals

- Metals react with **oxygen** to produce **metal oxides**.
- The reactions are oxidation reactions because the metals gain oxygen.
- Reduction involves the loss of oxygen.
- Oxidation is the loss of electrons and reduction is the gain of electrons. OIL RIG (oxidation is loss reduction is gain **of electrons**. (HT))
- When metals react with other substances the metal atoms form **positive** ions.
- The reactivity of a metal is related to its tendency to form positive ions.
- Metals can be arranged in order of their reactivity in a reactivity series.
- A **more** reactive metal can displace a **less** reactive metal from a compound.
- Unreactive metals such as gold are found in the Earth as the metal itself but most metals are found as compounds that require chemical reactions to extract the metal.
- Metals **less** reactive than carbon can be extracted from their oxides by **reduction with carbon**.
- Metals **more** reactive than carbon are extracted using **electrolysis**.

Reactions with acids

- Metal + Acid → Salt + Water (MASH)
 - Acid + carbonate → Salt + Water + Carbon Dioxide.
 - Acid + Alkali (base) → Salt + Water
 - To name the salt take the positive ion (usually the metal) and then change the name of the acid:
 - Hydrochloric acid - chloride
 - Nitric acid - nitrate
 - Sulfuric acid - sulfate
 - Acids** produce **hydrogen ions (H⁺)** in aqueous solutions.
 - Aqueous solutions of **alkalis** contain **hydroxide ions (OH⁻)**.
 - A solution with **pH 7 is neutral**.
 - Acids** have pH values of **less than 7**.
 - Alkalis** have pH values **greater than 7**.
 - In neutralisation reactions between an acid and an alkali, hydrogen ions react with hydroxide ions to produce water.
 - H⁺ (aq) + OH⁻ (aq) → H₂O (l).
- HT ONLY**
- A **strong acid** is **completely ionised** in aqueous solution. Examples of strong acids are hydrochloric, nitric and sulfuric acids.
 - A **weak acid** is only **partially ionised** in aqueous solution. Examples of weak acids are ethanoic, citric and carbonic acids.
 - For a given concentration of aqueous solutions, the stronger an acid, the lower the pH.
 - As the pH decreases by one unit, the hydrogen ion concentration of the solution increases by a factor of 10.

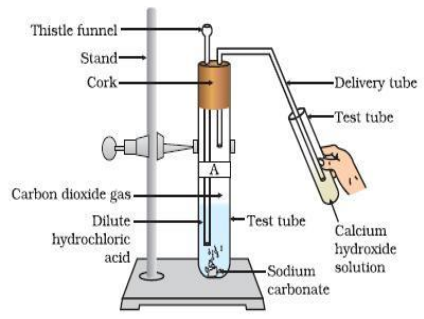
Electrolysis

- When an **ionic compound** is melted or dissolved in water, the ions are free to move about within the liquid or solution. These liquids and solutions are able to conduct electricity and are called electrolytes.
 - Passing an electric current through electrolytes causes the ions to move to the electrodes.
 - **Positively** charged ions move to the **negative** electrode (the **cathode**),
 - **Negatively** charged ions move to the **positive** electrode (the **anode**).
- **PANiC (Positive Anode, Negative is Cathode)**
- If you have a simple ionic compound and melt it the **positive metal cation** will go the **negative cathode**. The **negative non metal anion** will go to the **positive anode**.
 - **Cations are positive. Anions are negative.**
 - Aluminium is manufactured by the electrolysis of a molten mixture of aluminium oxide and cryolite using **carbon** as the positive electrode (**anode**).
- When the ionic compound is dissolved in water:
- At the negative electrode (**cathode**), **hydrogen** is produced if the metal is more reactive than hydrogen.
 - At the positive electrode (**anode**), **oxygen** is produced unless the solution contains **halide ions (chloride, bromide etc)** when the **halogen** is produced.
 - This happens because in the aqueous solution water molecules break down producing **hydrogen ions** and **hydroxide ions** that are discharged.
- **HT ONLY**
- During electrolysis, at the **cathode** (negative electrode), positively charged ions **gain** electrons and so the reactions are **reductions**.
 - At the **anode** (positive electrode), negatively charged ions **lose** electrons and so the reactions are **oxidations**.
 - Reactions at electrodes can be represented by half equations, for example:
 - $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2$
 - $4\text{OH}^- - 4\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{O}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Example Apparatus

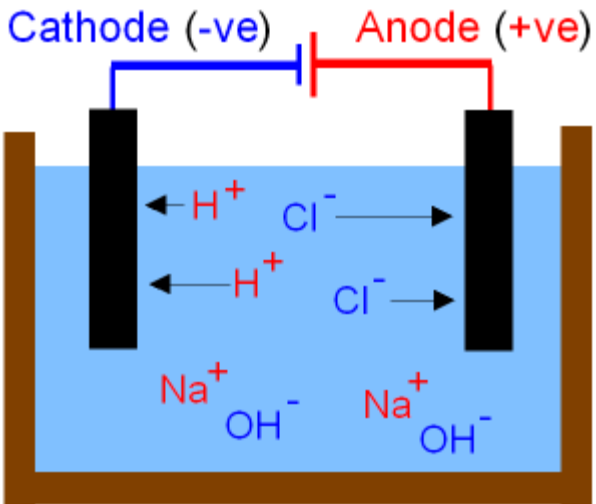
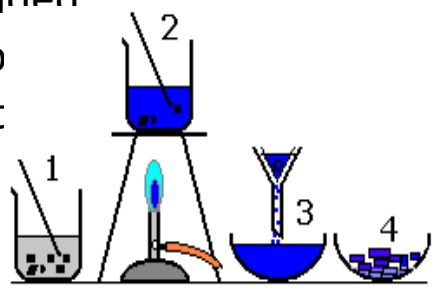
Acid + Carbonate

Limewater (calcium hydroxide) can be used to show CO_2 is produced



Acid + Metal Oxide

- Excess of metal oxide added
- Need to heat the solution to ensure acid fully reacts with available metal oxide particles
- Then filter to remove excess metal oxide

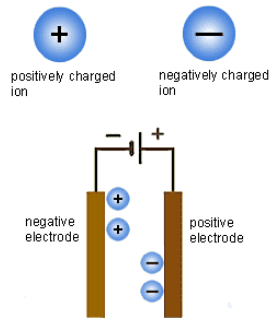


Required practical

Example Apparatus

Molten compounds or less reactive salt solutions

- Positive ions to negative electrode. Negative ions to positive electrode.



More reactive metal solutions
e.g. Sodium Chloride solution (Brine)

- If the metal is more reactive than Hydrogen
- Hydrogen is produced at the Negative electrode (instead of the metal).
- Metal hydroxide is produced in the solution.