

Read the following Notes thoroughly and do the questions given at the end.

Notes for the Chapter 1, The Language of chemistry

Chemistry has its own language such as symbol, equation, ion, valency, atom, element, molecule, reaction and so on. A *chemical symbol* denotes in short, a particular element or an atom of that element. Chemical reactions are easy to write with chemical symbols than having to write the lengthy chemical names. Many scientists have devised several methods to symbolic representation.

Valency is the combining capability of an element. In other words, the number of electrons which an atom can gain or share or lose when a chemical reaction takes place defines its valency. The classification of elements into monovalent, divalent and so on is made based on their valency.

Molecules are formed to satisfy the valency of an atom.

In this topic, you will learn about *chemical symbols* and *valency*.

Symbols of some common elements

- A chemical symbol is a notation of one or two letters representing an atom of a chemical element.
- A symbol plays a significant role in the study of elements. For e.g. the symbol Cl represents:
 - The element chlorine
 - One atom of chlorine
 - The atomic mass of chlorine i.e., 17 a.m.u

Valency

- Valency indicates the combining capacity of an atom or radical. It is defined as the number of hydrogen atoms that will combine with or displace one atom of that element or radical.
- Metals are electropositive in nature and lose electrons to attain octet configuration. Metals in Group 1 (alkali metals) have one valence electron and are univalent.
- Metals in group 2 (alkaline earth metals) have 2 valence electrons and are divalent.
- Metals in group 3 have 3 valence electrons and are trivalent.

- o $\text{Na} - e^- \Rightarrow \text{Na}^+$ (univalent).
- o $\text{Ca} - 2e^- \Rightarrow \text{Ca}^{2+}$ (divalent).
- o $\text{Al} - 3e^- \Rightarrow \text{Al}^{3+}$ (trivalent).
- Non-metals are electronegative in nature and gain electrons to attain octet configuration.
 - o $\text{Cl} + e^- \Rightarrow \text{Cl}^-$ (univalent).
 - o $\text{O} + 2e^- \Rightarrow \text{O}^{2-}$ (divalent).
 - o $\text{N} + 3e^- \Rightarrow \text{N}^{3-}$ (trivalent).
- Carbon, silicon and other group four elements have four valence electrons. They are called tetravalent elements. Under normal conditions, these elements share electrons with one or more other elements to gain octet configuration.
- However, Sn^{4+} and Pb^{4+} also exist.

Variable Valency

When an element loses electrons from the valence shell and from the penultimate shell, it is said to have variable valency.

Radicals

An atom or a group of atoms that behave like a single unit and contain a positive or negative ion is called a radical. Radicals are very reactive and have a unique valency.

Chemical Formula

A *chemical reaction* involves the transformation of one set of chemical substances to another set. It leads to change in the chemical and physical properties of a substance. It also leads to the change in physical state and composition of that substance. Substances with more than two elements chemically bonded are known as compounds. *Chemical Formula* represents the elements that a compound is made of.

Chemical formula plays an important role in understanding the formation of a substance and proportions of elements in a specific chemical reaction. It is vital to know the symbol of elements of a compound, the valency of elements and formula for radicals to write a chemical formula.

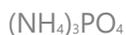
Molecular Formulae and Equations

A molecular formula, also known as a chemical formula, is a combination of elemental symbols and subscript numbers which is used to show the composition of a compound. Examples: Silica is represented as SiO_2 . Marble is represented as CaCO_3 .

Writing the molecular formula

- Write the symbol of the positive ion/radical to the left and the negative ion/radical to the right along with their valency number. Interchange the valence number of the radicals and shift them to the lower side.

- Example: ammonium phosphate.



- Write the valencies of the constituents below each and crossover the valencies of the combining atoms
- Example: Hydrogen sulphide.



Chemical Equations

1. One reactant and two or three products (decomposition reaction).

- $2\text{HgO}(\text{s}) \rightarrow 2\text{Hg}(\text{l}) + \text{O}_2(\text{g})$
- $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}(\text{aq}) \rightarrow \text{NH}_3(\text{g}) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$

2. Two reactants and one product (combination reaction).

- $2\text{Na} + \text{Cl}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{NaCl}$
- $\text{S} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{SO}_2$

3. Two reactants and two products (double displacement reaction).



4. Two reactants and two or more products.



The symbolic depiction of a chemical reaction in the form of symbols and formulae constitutes a chemical reaction. It basically consists of reactants (the starting substances) on the left-hand side and products (the substance formed as a result of chemical reaction) on the right-hand side of the equation, Both reactants and products of a chemical equation are represented by their chemical formulae. The individual reactants are separated by a plus (+) sign. The reactants and products are separated by an arrow symbol.

According to the law of conservation of mass, the quantity of each element does not change in a chemical reaction, meaning each side of the chemical equation should amount to the same quantity of any particular element. In a chemical reaction, the charge is conserved too. Thus, both sides of the balanced equation must depict the same charge. Balanced equations can be written using smallest whole-number coefficients. The coefficient 1 is implicit when there is no coefficient before a chemical formula,

In this topic, you will learn about various methods to balance chemical equations.

Balancing chemical equations Hit and trial method

- Start by balancing an element that appears in only one reactant and product.
- Once one element is balanced, proceed to balance another, and another, until all elements are balanced.
- Balance chemical formulas by placing coefficients in front of them.
- If two elements have the same number, balance the metal first.

Example: Iron + Sulphuric acid \rightarrow Iron(III) sulphate + Hydrogen.

Step 1

Write out the unbalanced reaction.



Step 2

Write the elements which occur on the LHS and RHS of the chemical equation and indicate the total number of each element on the respective side.

LHS	RHS
Fe-1	Fe-2
H-2	H-2
S-1	S-3
O-4	O – (4 x 3) = 12

- $2\text{Fe} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 + \text{H}_2.$
- Now Fe is balanced, H has the same number on both sides, so we balance sulphur.
- $2\text{Fe} + 3\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 + \text{H}_2.$
- This makes hydrogen unbalanced, while the rest are balanced, so we add 3 in front of hydrogen on the RHS.
- $2\text{Fe} + 3\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 + 3\text{H}_2.$
- The equation is balanced.

Chemical Formula Writing Worksheet

Write chemical formulas for the compounds in each box. The names are found by finding the intersection between the cations and anions. Example: The first box is the intersection between the "zinc" cation and the "chloride" anion, so you should write "ZnCl₂", as shown.

	<i>zinc</i>	<i>iron (II)</i>	<i>iron (III)</i>	<i>gallium</i>	<i>silver</i>	<i>lead (IV)</i>
<i>chloride</i>	ZnCl ₂					
<i>acetate</i>						
<i>nitrate</i>						
<i>oxide</i>						
<i>nitride</i>						
<i>sulfate</i>						

Write the formulas for the following compounds:

- 1) copper (II) chloride _____
- 2) lithium acetate _____
- 3) vanadium (III) selenide _____
- 4) manganese (IV) nitride _____
- 5) beryllium oxide _____
- 6) sodium sulfate _____
- 7) aluminum arsenide _____
- 8) potassium permanganate _____
- 9) chromium (VI) cyanide _____
- 10) tin (II) sulfite _____
- 11) vanadium (V) fluoride _____
- 12) ammonium nitrate _____

Balancing Chemical Equations

Balance the equations below:

- 1) ___ N₂ + ___ H₂ → ___ NH₃
- 2) ___ KClO₃ → ___ KCl + ___ O₂
- 3) ___ NaCl + ___ F₂ → ___ NaF + ___ Cl₂
- 4) ___ H₂ + ___ O₂ → ___ H₂O
- 5) ___ Pb(OH)₂ + ___ HCl → ___ H₂O + ___ PbCl₂
- 6) ___ AlBr₃ + ___ K₂SO₄ → ___ KBr + ___ Al₂(SO₄)₃
- 7) ___ CH₄ + ___ O₂ → ___ CO₂ + ___ H₂O
- 8) ___ C₃H₈ + ___ O₂ → ___ CO₂ + ___ H₂O
- 9) ___ C₈H₁₈ + ___ O₂ → ___ CO₂ + ___ H₂O
- 10) ___ FeCl₃ + ___ NaOH → ___ Fe(OH)₃ + ___ NaCl
- 11) ___ P + ___ O₂ → ___ P₂O₅
- 12) ___ Na + ___ H₂O → ___ NaOH + ___ H₂
- 13) ___ Ag₂O → ___ Ag + ___ O₂
- 14) ___ S₈ + ___ O₂ → ___ SO₃
- 15) ___ CO₂ + ___ H₂O → ___ C₆H₁₂O₆ + ___ O₂
- 16) ___ K + ___ MgBr → ___ KBr + ___ Mg
- 17) ___ HCl + ___ CaCO₃ → ___ CaCl₂ + ___ H₂O + ___ CO₂
- 18) ___ HNO₃ + ___ NaHCO₃ → ___ NaNO₃ + ___ H₂O + ___ CO₂
- 19) ___ H₂O + ___ O₂ → ___ H₂O₂
- 20) ___ NaBr + ___ CaF₂ → ___ NaF + ___ CaBr₂
- 21) ___ H₂SO₄ + ___ NaNO₂ → ___ HNO₂ + ___ Na₂SO₄

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