



**Master**  
**Kirkcaldy High School**



**Higher Chemistry**  
**Unit 1 - part 3**  
**Oxidising and Reducing Agents**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Assessment Page

### Homework

Homework title	Date	Mark/Total Mark
N5 Formulae + H Redox		/

### Notes/comments

### Check tests

Test title	Date	Mark/Total Mark
Unit 1: Key area 1ci		/

### Notes/comments

## Redox Reactions

### Overarching question(s) for this topic

- How can we identify chemicals that can oxidise and reduce other substances?
  - How can we balance complex-ion equations?
- 

### Oxidation and Reduction Reactions

**Reduction** is a **gain** of electrons by a reactant in any reaction.

The **electrons** will appear on the **reactant** side of the reaction

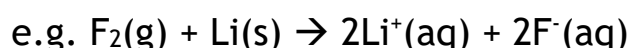


**Oxidation** is a **loss** of electrons by a reactant in any reaction.

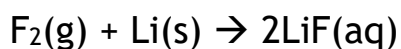
The **electrons** will appear on the **product** side of the reaction



In a **redox** reaction, reduction and oxidation take place at the same time.



which can also be written as:



An **oxidising agent** is a substance that **accepts** electrons, causing another substance to **oxidise**.

**Oxidising agents** themselves will **reduce**.

In the above example, **fluorine** is acting as an oxidising agent.

A **reducing agent** is a substance that **donates** electrons, causing another substance to **reduce**.

**Reducing agents** themselves will **oxidise**.

In the above example, **lithium** is acting as a reducing agent.

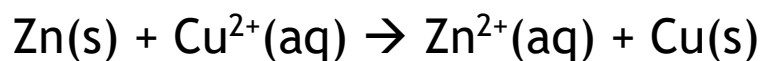
## Uses for oxidising agents

Oxidising agents are widely used because of the effectiveness with which they can kill **fungi** and **bacteria**, and can **inactivate viruses**. The oxidation process is also an effective means of **breaking** down **coloured** compounds, making oxidising agents ideal for use as '**bleach**' for **clothes** and **hair**.

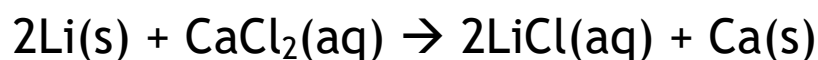
## Identifying oxidising and Reducing Agents

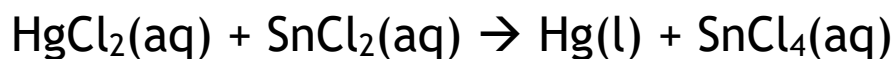
You will be given equations that you must identify the oxidation and reduction reactions and the oxidising and reducing agents. You may also write the ion-electron equations for the oxidation and reduction reactions.

*Your teacher will show you using these examples:*



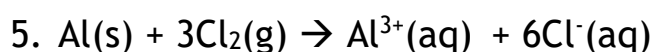
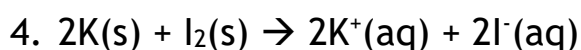
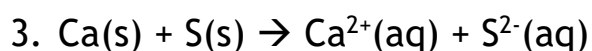
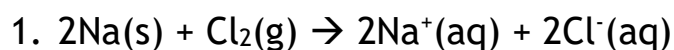
You must now use your data booklet to find the charges of the substances, remember only ionic substances will be charged. You will also need to identify spectator ions



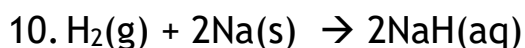
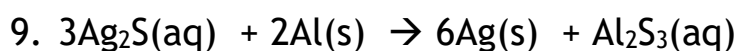
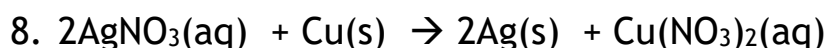
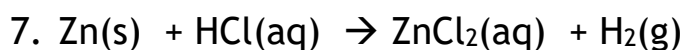
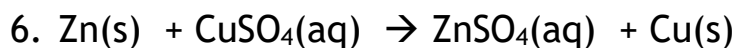


### Questions (in your jotter)

With the following equations, write the ion electron equation for the oxidation and reduction reactions and identify the oxidising agent and reducing agent.



You may also need to identify the spectator ions in the following equations



## The Electrochemical Series

The electrochemical series represents a series of **reduction** reactions.

The strongest **oxidising agents** are at the **bottom** of the **left-hand column** of the electrochemical series.

The strongest **reducing agents** are at the **top** of the **right-hand column** of the electrochemical series.

An **example** of a reducing agent **not shown** on the electrochemical series is **carbon monoxide**.

Elements with **low electronegativities** tend to form ions by losing electrons and so act as **reducing agents**.

Elements with **high electronegativities** tend to form ions by gaining electrons and so act as **oxidising agents**.

Reaction		
$\text{Li}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Li}(\text{s})$
$\text{Cs}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Cs}(\text{s})$
$\text{Rb}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Rb}(\text{s})$
$\text{K}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{K}(\text{s})$
$\text{Sr}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Sr}(\text{s})$
$\text{Ca}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Ca}(\text{s})$
$\text{Na}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Na}(\text{s})$
$\text{Mg}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Mg}(\text{s})$
$\text{Al}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 3\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Al}(\text{s})$
$2\text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{H}_2(\text{g}) + 2\text{OH}^-(\text{aq})$
$\text{Zn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Zn}(\text{s})$
$\text{Cr}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 3\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Cr}(\text{s})$
$\text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Fe}(\text{s})$
$\text{Ni}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Ni}(\text{s})$
$\text{Sn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Sn}(\text{s})$
$\text{Pb}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Pb}(\text{s})$
$\text{Fe}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 3\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Fe}(\text{s})$
$2\text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{H}_2(\text{g})$
$\text{S}_4\text{O}_6^{2-}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3^{2-}(\text{aq})$
$\text{Sn}^{4+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Sn}^{2+}(\text{aq})$
$\text{Cu}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Cu}^+(\text{aq})$
$\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{SO}_3^{2-}(\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell)$
$\text{Cu}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Cu}(\text{s})$
$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell) + 4\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$4\text{OH}^-(\text{aq})$
$\text{I}_2(\text{s}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$2\text{I}^-(\text{aq})$
$\text{Fe}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{aq})$
$\text{Ag}^+(\text{aq}) + \text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Ag}(\text{s})$
$\text{Hg}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Hg}(\ell)$
$\text{Br}_2(\ell) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$2\text{Br}^-(\text{aq})$
$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 4\text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + 4\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$2\text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell)$
$\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}(\text{aq}) + 14\text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + 6\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$2\text{Cr}^{3+}(\text{aq}) + 7\text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell)$
$\text{Cl}_2(\text{g}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$2\text{Cl}^-(\text{aq})$
$\text{MnO}_4^-(\text{aq}) + 8\text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + 5\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$\text{Mn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) + 4\text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell)$
$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2(\text{aq}) + 2\text{H}^+(\text{aq}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$2\text{H}_2\text{O}(\ell)$
$\text{F}_2(\text{g}) + 2\text{e}^-$	$\rightleftharpoons$	$2\text{F}^-(\text{aq})$

## Using the electrochemical series

You can use the electrochemical series to identify potential oxidising or reducing agents for specific reactions.

To **oxidise** a specific reaction, the **oxidising agent** must be **below** and to the **left** of the reaction on the electrochemical series.

To **reduce** a specific reaction, the **reducing agent** must be **above** and to the **right** of the reaction on the electrochemical series.

*Your teacher will explain the following example*

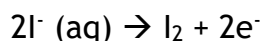


Which of the following ions could be used to oxidise sulfite ions to sulfate ions?

- A  $\text{Cr}^{3+}(\text{aq})$
- B  $\text{Al}^{3+}(\text{aq})$
- C  $\text{Fe}^{3+}(\text{aq})$
- D  $\text{Sn}^{4+}(\text{aq})$

### Questions

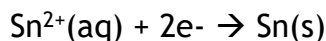
1.



Which of the following could be used to oxidise iodide ions to iodine?

- A  $\text{Cu}(\text{s})$
- B  $\text{Hg}^{2+}(\text{aq})$
- C  $\text{Al}^{3+}(\text{aq})$
- D  $\text{K}^+(\text{aq})$

2.



Which of the following could be used to reduce tin ions to tin metal?

- A  $\text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{aq})$
- B  $\text{Ca}(\text{s})$
- C  $\text{Br}_2(\text{l})$
- D  $\text{MnO}_4^-(\text{aq})$

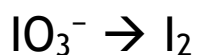
## Balancing complex-ion equations

Complex-ions are ions with multiple elements grouped together. (e.g.  $\text{IO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{MnO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-}$ ). They can undergo redox reactions and must be balanced.

Steps to balancing complex ion equations:

1. Balance the non-oxygen element.
2. Balance the oxygen by adding water molecules to the equation.
3. Balance the hydrogen by adding hydrogen ions ( $\text{H}^+$ ) to the equation.
4. Balance the charge.

Your teacher will demonstrate this to you



### Questions

Balance the following complex ion equations

1.  $\text{ClO}_3^- \rightarrow \text{Cl}_2$
2.  $\text{NO}_3^- \rightarrow \text{NO}$
3.  $\text{MnO}_4^- \rightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}$
4.  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7^{2-} \rightarrow \text{Cr}^{3+}$

### Extension questions:

Hodder and Gibson  
Blue Chemcord book  
SCHOLAR



## Past Papers

<b>S &amp; B 1<sup>st</sup> 20</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
MC	20	17,18,19	13	18,19	3,4	4	4,5	14
S2	12a <sup>ii</sup>	11b <sup>ii</sup>	9b <sup>i</sup>	11b	12d <sup>i</sup>	4c <sup>ii</sup> , 6b <sup>ii</sup>	5b <sup>i-ii</sup>	1b <sup>iii</sup> , 6d

### **TEAMS: Check Test – Unit 1: Key Area 1ci**