# Writing Net Ionic Equations for AP Chemistry

# When writing net ionic equations, keep the following in mind:

- Only atoms or ions that undergo a change are included
- Atoms/ions that are in the same state and form at the beginning and at the end of the reaction are not included (these are called **spectator ions**)
- Charges on ions must be included and correct
- Must be correctly balanced
- On the AP Exam, states/phases do not need to be included
  - HOWEVER pay attention to them because they sometimes indicate which substances are changing
- Remember the following substances that fully dissociate in solution:
  - o Ionic compounds that contain Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
  - o Compounds with K<sub>sp</sub> values greater than 1
  - O Strong acids (HCl, HBr, HI, HClO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, HNO<sub>3</sub>) and bases (group I and II hydroxides)

# Types of Net Ionics

#### Dissociation:

# $\mathbf{AB} \xrightarrow{H_2O} \mathbf{A}^{\scriptscriptstyle +}(\mathbf{aq}) + \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{aq})$

- General Formula: the coefficients in the products are derived from subscripts from the dissociated substance
- remember that subscripts in the dissociated substance are determined by the charges on the ions – these charges must be included in the products of the dissociation

### Double Replacement/ Formation of Precipitate:

$$AB + CD \rightarrow AD + CB$$

- Net Ionic Format: Cation + Anion → Ionic Compound
- you will (generally) have 2 spectator ions these are not included in net ionic
- Pay attention to the charges:
  - o must be included on ions
  - o solid formed is neutral (NO charge)
- treat as the opposite of a dissociation write solid product first, then work backwards to write it's composite ions as the reactants

#### **REDOX:**

### $A(s) + B^{m+}(aq) \rightarrow A^{m+}(aq) + B(s)$

- generally will be given a table of halfreactions to choose from
- coefficients come from the balancing of the electrons in the half reactions
- single-replacement is an application of REDOX

## Acid-Base (including Buffers) Reactions:

#### $HA(aq) + BOH(aq) \rightarrow H_2O(1) + BA(aq)$

- Pay attention to strengths of acids and bases:
  - Strong will fully dissociate, creating spectator ion(s)
  - Weak will be written in associated form, since it only partially dissociates
- Strong acid + strong base net ionic:

$$H^+ + OH^- \rightarrow H_2O$$

• Weak acid + strong base:

$$HA + OH^{-} \rightarrow H_{2}O + A^{-}$$

Strong acid + weak base:

$$H++A-\rightarrow HA$$

### Practice:

For each of the following described situations, write a balanced net-ionic equation.

$$H_2NNH_2(aq) + H_2O(l) \rightleftharpoons H_2NNH_3^+(aq) + OH^-(aq)$$
  $K_b = 1.3 \times 10^{-6}$ 

1) In aqueous solution, the compound  $H_2NNH_2$  reacts according to the equation above. A 50.0 mL sample of 0.25 M  $H_2NNH_2(aq)$  is combined with a 50.0 mL sample of 0.25 M  $H_2NNH_2(aq)$ .

2) A volume of 50.0 mL of 0.20 M NH<sub>3</sub>(aq) is titrated with 0.50 M HCl(aq). The value of the K<sub>b</sub> for NH<sub>3</sub> in water is 1.8x10<sup>-5</sup> at 25°C. Write the balanced net ionic equation for the reaction of NH<sub>3</sub>(aq) with HCl(aq).

$$NH_3 + H^+ \longrightarrow NH_4^+ + H_2O$$

$$NH_3 + H_3O^+ \longrightarrow NH_4^+ + H_2O$$

3) At high temperatures, SiH₄ decomposes to form solid silicon and hydrogen gas. Write a balanced equation for the reaction. 2021 # 2

4) 
$$CH_3NH_2(aq) + H_2O(l) \rightleftharpoons CH_3NH_3^+(aq) + OH^-(aq)$$
  $K_b = 4.4 \times 10^{-4}$ 

Methylamine,  $CH_3NH_2$ , is a weak base that reacts with water according to the equation above. A 50.0 mL sample of the methylamine is titration with an HCl solution of unknown concentration. Write the net ionic equation that takes place during the titration.

 $Na_2CO_3(aq) + Ca(NO_3)_2(aq) \rightarrow 2 NaNO_3(aq) + CaCO_3(s)$ 

Write the net ionic equation for the reaction that occurs when the solutions of  $Na_2CO_3(aq)$  and  $Ca(NO_3)_2(aq)$  are mixed. 2019 #3

6) For the precipitation experiment, the student adds 20.0 mL of 0.200 M Ba(NO3)2 to 50.0 mL of the CuSO4(aq). The reaction goes to completion, and a white precipitate forms. The student filters the precipitate and dries it overnight. Write a balanced net ionic equation for the precipitation reaction.

7) Potassium sorbate,  $KC_6H_7O_2$  (molar mass 150. g/mol) is commonly added to diet soft drinks as a preservative. A stock solution of  $KC_6H_7O_2$  (aq) of known concentration must be prepared. A student titrates 45.00 mL of the stock solution with 1.25 M HCl(aq) using both an indicator and a pH meter. The value of  $K_a$  for sorbic acid,  $HC_6H_7O_2$ , is  $1.7\times10^{-5}$ .

Compound	Melting Point (°C)
Lil	449
KI	686
LiF	845
NaF	993

8) Identify a compound from the table that can be dissolved in water to produce a basic solution. Write the net ionic equation for the reaction that occurs to cause the solution to be basic. 2015 #6

Either LiF or NaF  

$$F^- + H_2O \longrightarrow HF + OH^-$$

9) A student prepares a solution containing equimolar amounts of  $HC_2H_3O_2$  and  $NaC_2H_3O_2$ . The pH of the solution is measured to be 4.7. The student adds two drops of 3.0 M  $HNO_3(aq)$  and stirs the sample, observing that the pH remains at 4.7. Write a balanced, net-ionic equation for the reaction between  $HNO_3(aq)$  and the chemical species that is responsible for the pH remaining at 4.7.

$$C_2H_3O_2^- + H_3O^+ \longrightarrow HC_2H_3O_2 + H_2O OR$$
  
 $C_2H_3O_2^- + H^+ \longrightarrow HC_2H_3O_2$ 

Half reaction	$E^{\circ}\left(V\right)$
$S_4O_6^{2-}(aq) + 2e^- \rightarrow 2S_2O_3^{2-}(aq)$	0.08
$I_2(s) + 2 e^- \rightarrow 2 \Gamma(aq)$	0.54
$O_2(g) + 2 H^+(aq) + 2 e^- \rightarrow H_2O_2(aq)$	0.68

10) Which solution, of the choices above, should be added to I2(s) to reduce it to I-? Circle the answer below.  $H_2O_2(aq)$   $Na_2S_2O_3(aq)$   $Na_2S_4O_6(aq)$ 

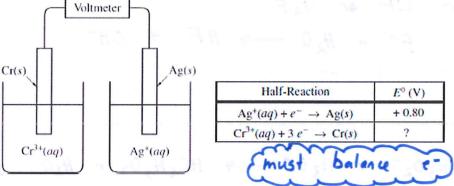
Write a balanced, net-ionic equation for the reaction between I2 and the solution you selected. 2016 # 3

11) Explain why the addition of 0.100 M NaOH(aq) to 0.100 M HNO<sub>2</sub>(aq) can result in the formation of a buffer solution. Include the net ionic equation for the reaction that occurs when the student adds the NaOH(aq) to the HNO<sub>2</sub>(aq).

$$HNO_2 + OH^- \longrightarrow NO_2^- + H_2O$$

$$Na_2S_2O_3(aq) + 4 NaOCl(aq) + 2 NaOH(aq) \rightarrow 2 Na_2SO_4(aq) + 4 NaCl(aq) + H_2O(I)$$

12) Write the balanced, net-ionic equation for the reaction shown above. 2018 #1



13) Given the picture of the cell above, and the table of half-reactions shown, write the balanced net-ionic equation for the overall equation that occurs as the cell operates.

14) Write the balanced, net ionic equation for the change that occurs when solid CaCl<sub>2</sub> is dissolved in water.

15) The color of another salt of silver, Agl(s), is yellow. A student adds a solution of Nal to a test tube containing a small amount of solid, cream-colored AgBr. After stirring the contents of the test tube, the student observes that the solid in the test tube changes color from cream to yellow. Write the net ionic equation for the reaction that occurred in the test tube.

$$AgBr(s) + I^- \rightarrow AgI(s) + Br^-$$

16) The addition of sulfurous acid ( $H_2SO_3$  - a weak acid) to barium hydroxide ( $Ba(OH)_2$  - a strong base) results in the formation of a precipitate. Write the net ionic equation for the reaction.

$$H_2 SO_3 + Ba^{2+} + 20H^- \longrightarrow H_20 + BaSO_3$$

17) Aqueous ethylamine reacts with water according to the reaction below.

$$C_2H_5NH_2(aq) + H_2O(l) \rightleftharpoons C_2H_5NH_3^+(aq) + OH^-(aq)$$

A solution is made by mixing 500. mL of 0.500 M  $C_2H_5NH_2$  with 500. mL of 0.200 M HCl. Write the net ionic equation that represents the reaction that occurs.

$$C_2 H_5 NH_2 + H^4 \longrightarrow C_2 H_5 NH_3^4 Q_2^2$$
  
 $C_2 H_5 NH_2 + H_3 O^4 \longrightarrow C_2 H_5 NH_3^4 + H_2 O$ 

18) Write the net ionic equation for the reaction between the weak acid HOCI(aq) and the strong base NaOH(aq).

$$HOCI + OH^{-} \longrightarrow OCI^{-} + H_2O$$

19) Write the balanced net ionic equation for the galvanic cell that is constructed using to the two-half cells that are represented by the standard reduction potentials given below.

$$Zn^{2+}(aq) + 2 e^- \rightarrow Zn(s)$$
  $E^{\circ} = -0.76 \text{ V}$   $Fe^{3+}(aq) + e^- \rightarrow Fe^{2+}(aq)$   $E^{\circ} = 0.77 \text{ V}$ 

20) Write the balanced equation for the combustion of  $S_8(s)$  to form  $SO_2(g)$