



Oxidation and Reduction

Set 25: Balancing Half Equations

Balance the following half equations and state whether they are reduction or oxidation.

1. $\text{Mg} \rightarrow \text{Mg}^{2+}$
2. $\text{S} \rightarrow \text{S}^{2-}$
3. $\text{Cl}^- \rightarrow \text{Cl}_2$
4. $\text{Ca} \rightarrow \text{Ca}^{2+}$
5. $\text{I}_2 \rightarrow \text{I}^-$
6. $\text{Zn} \rightarrow \text{Zn}^{2+}$
7. $\text{Cu}^+ \rightarrow \text{Cu}^{2+}$
8. $\text{Au}^+ \rightarrow \text{Au}$
9. $\text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{H}_2$
10. $\text{Cu}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Cu}$

Extra for experts: Unless stated otherwise, assume acidic conditions.

11. $\text{AsO}_3^{3-} \rightarrow \text{AsO}_4^{3-}$
12. $\text{S}_2\text{O}_3^{2-} \rightarrow \text{SO}_4^{2-}$
13. $\text{NO}_3^- \rightarrow \text{NH}_4^+$
14. $\text{MnO}_4^- \rightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+}$

Answers

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|-----|--|-----------|
| 1. | $\text{Mg} \rightarrow \text{Mg}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^-$ | Oxidation |
| 2. | $\text{S} + 2\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{S}^{2-}$ | Reduction |
| 3. | $2\text{Cl}^- \rightarrow \text{Cl}_2 + 2\text{e}^-$ | Oxidation |
| 4. | $\text{Ca} \rightarrow \text{Ca}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^-$ | Oxidation |
| 5. | $\text{I}_2 + 2\text{e}^- \rightarrow 2\text{I}^-$ | Reduction |
| 6. | $\text{Zn} \rightarrow \text{Zn}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^-$ | Oxidation |
| 7. | $\text{Cu}^+ \rightarrow \text{Cu}^{2+} + \text{e}^-$ | Oxidation |
| 8. | $\text{Au}^+ + \text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{Au}$ | Reduction |
| 9. | $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2$ | Reduction |
| 10. | $\text{Cu}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{Cu}$ | Reduction |
| 11. | $\text{AsO}_3^{3-} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{AsO}_4^{3-} + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^-$ | Oxidation |
| 12. | $\text{S}_2\text{O}_3^{2-} + 5\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{SO}_4^{2-} + 10\text{H}^+ + 4\text{e}^-$ | Oxidation |
| 13. | $\text{NO}_3^- + 10\text{H}^+ + 8\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{NH}_4^+ + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | Reduction |
| 14. | $\text{MnO}_4^- + 8\text{H}^+ + 5\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+} + 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | Reduction |