Practice Questions Section 4.1

Factors Influencing Reaction Rate - Nature of Reactants

1. Which one of the following reactions would you expect to be fastest at room temperature and why?

$$Pb^{2+}_{(aq)} + 2 Cl_{(aq)} \rightarrow PbCl_{2(s)}$$

$$Pb_{(s)} + Cl_{2(g)} \rightarrow PbCl_{2(s)}$$

2. Consider the following reactions. Which do you predict will occur most rapidly at room conditions? Slowest?

$$C_2H_{6(g)} + O_{2(g)} \rightarrow 2 CO_{2(g)} + 3 H_2O_{(g)}$$

$$Fe_{(s)} + O_{2(g)} \rightarrow Fe_2O_{3(s)}$$

$$H_2O_{(l)} + CO_{2(g)} \rightarrow H_2CO_{3(g)}$$

$$2\;Fe^{^{3+}}{}_{(aq)} + Sn^{^{2+}}{}_{(aq)} \longrightarrow 2\;Fe^{^{2+}}{}_{(aq)} + Sn^{^{4+}}{}_{(aq)}$$

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Practice Questions Section 4.1

Factors Influencing Reaction Rate - Nature of Reactants Answers

1. Which one of the following reactions would you expect to be fastest at room temperature and why?

SOLUTION

$$Pb^{2+}_{(aq)} + 2 Cl^{-}_{(aq)} \rightarrow PbCl_{2(s)}$$
 fastest - ions in aqueous solution react very quickly; all

are in the same phase

$$Pb_{(s)} + Cl_{2(g)} \rightarrow PbCl_{2(s)}$$
 slower - one of the reactants is a solid

2. Consider the following reactions. Which do you predict will occur most rapidly at room conditions? Slowest?

SOLUTION

$$C_2H_{6(g)} + O_{2(g)} \rightarrow 2 CO_{2(g)} + 3 H_2O_{(g)}$$
 slow due to covalent bonding (unless the reaction is highly exothermic)

$$Fe_{(s)} + O_{2(g)} \rightarrow Fe_2O_{3(s)}$$
 slowest - solid reactant (Fe); this reaction describes the rusting of iron

$$H_2O_{(1)} + CO_{2(g)} \rightarrow H_2CO_{3(g)}$$
 slow due to covalent bonding

$$2 \; Fe^{3+}_{\;\;(aq)} + \; Sn^{2+}_{\;\;(aq)} \rightarrow 2 \; Fe^{2+}_{\;\;(aq)} + \; Sn^{4+}_{\;\;(aq)} \qquad \qquad \text{fastest - ions in solution react very quickly}$$