Practice Questions Section 4.3 Factors Influencing Reaction Rate – Concentration & Pressure

1. Consider the following reaction that occurs between hydrochloric acid, HCl, and zinc metal:

 $\mathrm{HCl}_{(\mathrm{aq})} + \mathrm{Zn}_{(\mathrm{s})} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2\,(\mathrm{g})} + \mathrm{Zn}\mathrm{Cl}_{2\,(\mathrm{aq})}$

Will this reaction occur fastest using a 6 M solution of HCl or a 0.5 M solution of HCl? Explain.

- 2. Again consider the reaction between hydrochloric acid and zinc. How will increasing the temperature affect the rate of the reaction? Explain.
- 3. Based on the following kinetic energy curves, which reaction will have a faster rate A or B? Explain. Also, which reaction, A or B, would benefit most in terms of increased rate if the temperature of the system were increased?



Practice Questions Section 4.3 Factors Influencing Reaction Rate – Concentration & Pressure Answers

1. Consider the following reaction that occurs between hydrochloric acid, HCl, and zinc metal:

 $HCl_{(aq)} + Zn_{(s)} \rightarrow H_{2(g)} + ZnCl_{2(aq)}$

Will this reaction occur fastest using a 6 M solution of HCl or a 0.5 M solution of HCl? Explain.

Solution:

The reaction will occur fastest with 6 M HCl, because it is more concentrated than the 0.5 M solution. In the more concentrated solution there are more moles of HCl present - with a higher concentration of reacting particles, collisions will occur more frequently, leading to a faster rate of reaction.

2. Again consider the reaction between hydrochloric acid and zinc. How will increasing the temperature affect the rate of the reaction? Explain.

Solution:

Increasing the temperature will most likely increase the rate of the reaction, for two reasons:

- Particles will move around faster at the higher temperature and thus will collide more frequently, resulting in a faster rate of reaction.
- Particles will collide with more force. Thus, more particles will likely have sufficient energy (Ea) to reach the activated complex and thus have a successful collision.
- 3. Based on the following kinetic energy curves, which reaction will have a faster rate A or B? Explain. Also, which reaction, A or B, would benefit most in terms of increased rate if the temperature of the system were increased?



Solution:

Reaction B would be faster than Reaction A because it has a lower threshold energy (activation energy). Thus, more particles have at least the minimum amount of energy required for a successful reaction.

Reaction A would benefit most by an increase in temperature. Reaction B already have the majority of particles above the threshold energy; having more particles above the threshold would not make a significant difference in the rate.