Chemistry 122

Le Châtelier's Principle

- 1. Nitrogen monoxide, a major air pollutant, is formed in automobile engines from the endothermic reaction of nitrogen and oxygen gases.
 - a. Write the equilibrium reaction equation including the term "energy" to indicate heat flow in the equation.
 - b. Describe the direction of the equilibrium shift if the concentration of oxygen is increased.
 - c. Describe the direction of the equilibrium shift if the pressure is increased.
 - d. Gasoline burns better at higher temperatures. What are some disadvantages of the operation of automobile engines at higher temperatures?
- 2. In a sealed container, nitrogen monoxide and oxygen gases are in equilibrium with nitrogen dioxide gas. The reaction of nitrogen monoxide and oxygen is exothermic.

 $2NO_{(g)} + O_{2(g)} \rightarrow 2NO_{2(g)} + energy$

Predict the equilibrium shift when the following changes are made.

- a. The temperature is decreased.
- b. The concentration of $NO_{(g)}$ is decreased.
- c. The concentration of $NO_{2(g)}$ is increased.
- d. The volume of the system is decreased.
- 3. Based on the equilibrium reaction equation, predict the color change in the equilibrium mixture when each of the following changes are made.

 $Fe^{3+}_{(aq)}$ + $SCN^{-}_{(aq)}$ $\overrightarrow{\leftarrow}$ $FeSCN^{2+}_{(aq)}$ (yellow) (colorless) (red)

- a. A crystal of $KSCN_{(s)}$ is added to the system, which breaks apart into K^+ and SCN^- ions when mixed.
- b. A crystal of $\text{FeCl}_{3(s)}$ is added to the system, which breaks apart into Fe^{3+} and Cl^- ions when mixed.
- c. A crystal of NaOH_(s) is added to the system, which reacts with existing Fe³⁺ ions to form an additional aqueous solution, iron(III) hydroxide.