# <u>Chemical Reactions</u>

When writing a word equation, we see how reactants give us products



Note that the plus sign (+) separates chemical formulas on either side of the reaction.

## **Chemical Equations**

A chemical equation replaces the words by their symbols.

 $Fe + O_2 --- > Fe_2O_3$ 

A skeleton equation is a chemical equation that does not indicate the relative amounts of the reactants and products.

To add more information to the equation, we can indicate the physical states of substances by putting a symbol after each formula.

(s) for solid (1) for liquid (g) for gas

(aq) for a substance in a aqueous solution (a substance disolved in water)

So, the chemical equation above to show how iron rusts now can be given as

$$Fe(s) + O_2(g) \longrightarrow Fe_2O_3(s)$$

In many chemical reactions, a **catalyst** is added to the reaction mixture. A catalyst is a substance that speeds up the reaction but is not used up in the reaction.

Where it is neither reactant nor product, it gets written above the arrow in the chemical reaction.

Ex:

$$H_2O_2(aq) \xrightarrow{MnO_2} H_2O(1) + O_2(g)$$

A  $\xrightarrow{\Delta}$  or  $\xrightarrow{heat}$  above the reaction arrow indicates that heat is being supplied to the reaction.

## **Balancing Equations**

When we balance a chemical equation, there a few guidelines to help along the way.

Handout Sheet

## <u>Example 1</u>

#### $SnO_2 + H_2 --> Sn + H_2O$

**Describing Chemical Reactions** 

#### <u>Example 2</u>

## $C_2H_6$ + $O_2$ --> $CO_2$ + $H_2O$

## Example 3

 $Ca(NO_3)_{2(aq)} + KOH_{(aq)} - Ca(OH)_{2(s)} + KNO_{3(aq)}$ 

Example 4:

Carbon dioxide and water react with sunlight to give glucose (sugar) and oxygen gas.

- Write a skeleton equation for this reaction.
- Balance the reaction.
- What kind of reaction is this?

**Describing Chemical Reactions** 

### Try questions #1-12 on page 324-329

01a. Balancing Equations Tips and Guidelines.docx