

Limiting Reactant Challenges

1. Reaction of Hydrogen and Oxygen to Form Water

- **Problem:** If 10 grams of hydrogen gas (H_2) react with 80 grams of oxygen gas (O_2), determine the limiting reagent and the amount of water (H_2O) produced.
- **Solution:**
 - Moles of $H_2 = 10 \text{ g} / 2 \text{ g/mol} = 5 \text{ moles}$
 - Moles of $O_2 = 80 \text{ g} / 32 \text{ g/mol} = 2.5 \text{ moles}$
 - The balanced equation is $2H_2 + O_2 \rightarrow 2H_2O$
 - The mole ratio required is 2:1 (H_2 to O_2). Therefore, H_2 is in excess, and O_2 is the limiting reagent.
 - Amount of H_2O produced = 2.5 moles of $O_2 * 2 \text{ moles of } H_2O / 1 \text{ mole of } O_2 = 5 \text{ moles of } H_2O$
 - Mass of $H_2O = 5 \text{ moles} * 18 \text{ g/mol} = 90 \text{ grams}$

2. Combustion of Propane

- **Problem:** Determine the limiting reagent and the amount of CO_2 produced when 44 grams of propane (C_3H_8) combust with 160 grams of oxygen.
- **Solution:**
 - Moles of $C_3H_8 = 44 \text{ g} / 44.1 \text{ g/mol} = 1 \text{ mole}$
 - Moles of $O_2 = 160 \text{ g} / 32 \text{ g/mol} = 5 \text{ moles}$
 - The balanced equation is $C_3H_8 + 5O_2 \rightarrow 3CO_2 + 4H_2O$
 - The mole ratio required is 1:5 (C_3H_8 to O_2). Therefore, O_2 is in excess, and C_3H_8 is the limiting reagent.
 - Amount of CO_2 produced = 1 mole of $C_3H_8 * 3 \text{ moles of } CO_2 / 1 \text{ mole of } C_3H_8 = 3 \text{ moles of } CO_2$
 - Mass of $CO_2 = 3 \text{ moles} * 44 \text{ g/mol} = 132 \text{ grams}$

3. Synthesis of Ammonia

- **Problem:** Find the limiting reagent and the amount of NH_3 produced when 28 grams of nitrogen (N_2) react with 6 grams of hydrogen (H_2).
- **Solution:**
 - Moles of $N_2 = 28 \text{ g} / 28 \text{ g/mol} = 1 \text{ mole}$
 - Moles of $H_2 = 6 \text{ g} / 2 \text{ g/mol} = 3 \text{ moles}$
 - The balanced equation is $N_2 + 3H_2 \rightarrow 2NH_3$
 - The mole ratio required is 1:3 (N_2 to H_2). Therefore, N_2 is in excess, and H_2 is the limiting reagent.
 - Amount of NH_3 produced = 3 moles of $H_2 * 2 \text{ moles of } NH_3 / 3 \text{ moles of } H_2 = 2 \text{ moles of } NH_3$
 - Mass of $NH_3 = 2 \text{ moles} * 17 \text{ g/mol} = 34 \text{ grams}$

4. Formation of Calcium Carbonate

- **Problem:** If 40 grams of calcium oxide (CaO) react with 44 grams of carbon dioxide (CO₂), determine the limiting reagent and the amount of calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) formed.
- **Solution:**
 - Moles of CaO = 40 g / 56 g/mol = 0.714 moles
 - Moles of CO₂ = 44 g / 44 g/mol = 1 mole
 - The balanced equation is $\text{CaO} + \text{CO}_2 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3$
 - The mole ratio required is 1:1 (CaO). Therefore, CaO is the limiting reagent.
 - Amount of CaCO₃ produced = 0.714 moles of CaO * 1 mole of CaCO₃ / 1 mole of CaO = 0.714 moles of CaCO₃
 - Mass of CaCO₃ = 0.714 moles * 100 g/mol = 71.4 grams

5. Decomposition of Potassium Chlorate

- **Problem:** Determine the limiting reagent and the amount of KCl produced when 245 grams of potassium chlorate (KClO₃) decompose.
- **Solution:**
 - Moles of KClO₃ = 245 g / 122.5 g/mol = 2 moles
 - The balanced equation is $2\text{KClO}_3 \rightarrow 2\text{KCl} + 3\text{O}_2$
 - The mole ratio required is 2:2 (KClO₃). Therefore, KClO₃ is the limiting reagent.
 - Amount of KCl produced = 2 moles of KClO₃ * 2 moles of KCl / 2 moles of KClO₃ = 2 moles of KCl
 - Mass of KCl = 2 moles * 74.5 g/mol = 149 grams

6. Neutralization of Hydrochloric Acid with Sodium Hydroxide

- **Problem:** If 50 grams of HCl react with 80 grams of NaOH, determine the limiting reagent and the amount of NaCl produced.
- **Solution:**
 - Moles of HCl = 50 g / 36.5 g/mol = 1.37 moles
 - Moles of NaOH = 80 g / 40 g/mol = 2 moles
 - The balanced equation is $\text{HCl} + \text{NaOH} \rightarrow \text{NaCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
 - The mole ratio required is 1:1 (HCl). Therefore, HCl is the limiting reagent.
 - Amount of NaCl produced = 1.37 moles of HCl * 1 mole of NaCl / 1 mole of HCl = 1.37 moles of NaCl
 - Mass of NaCl = 1.37 moles * 58.5 g/mol = 80.145 grams