

A Level Chemistry B (Salters)

H433/01 Fundamentals of chemistry

Question Set 21

1 (a) Plants need nitrogen to synthesise proteins, but most plants cannot use atmospheric nitrogen. Ammonium nitrate is often used as a fertiliser as it contains nitrogen in a form that plants can absorb.

The first step in the process of making ammonium nitrate is the synthesis of ammonia fromatmospheric nitrogen. This synthesis reaction has a very high activation enthalpy. Explain this in terms of the bonding in nitrogen.

(b) (i) The hydrogen needed to manufacture ammonia can be produced from steam and methaneas shown in **equation 36.1** below.

 $CH_4(g) + H_2O(g) \rightleftharpoons CO(g) + 3H_2(g) \qquad \Delta H = +206 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ Equation 36.1

Use the entropy values in the table below to calculate $\Delta_{sys}S$ for the forward reaction in **equation 36.1**

186.2

189.0

197.6

130.6

Substance	Entropy S/JK ⁻¹ mol ⁻¹

∆ _{sys} S =	JK ^{−1}	mol ⁻¹
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- (b) (ii) Explain how the sign of your answer to (i) is predicted by equation 36.1. [1]
- (c) Calculate the minimum temperature required for the forward reaction in equation 36.1 to befeasible.

 $CH_4(g)$

 $H_2O(g)$

CO(g)

 $H_2(g)$

Give your answer to an appropriate number of significant figures.

Temperature = K

(d)
$$CH_4(g) + H_2O(g) \rightleftharpoons CO(g) + 3H_2(g) \quad \Delta H = +206 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$
 Equation 36.1

Another source of hydrogen is from the reaction shown in **equation 36.2**.

$$CH_4(g) + CO_2(g) \Rightarrow 2CO(g) + 2H_2(g) \Delta H = +247 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$
 Equation 36.2

This is claimed to be a much greener process than that in **equation 36.1**.

Comment on the validity of this statement, considering:

- the raw materials used
- the operating conditions
- the mole ratios.

[1]

[2]

[1]

The Haber process for the manufacture of ammonia is shown in equation 36.3.

$$N_2(g) + 3H_2(g) \rightleftharpoons 2NH_3(g) \Delta H = -92 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$
 Equation 36.3

At a certain temperature, a mixture of nitrogen and hydrogen was allowed to reach equilibrium in a container of fixed volume. Chemists found the concentrations shown in the table.

Substance	Concentration at the start/mol dm ⁻³	Concentration at equilibrium/moldm ⁻³
N ₂	1.00	0.90
H ₂	1.00	
NH ₃	0.00	

Calculate the equilibrium concentrations of H_2 and NH_3 . Use these values to calculate a value for K_c at the temperature of the experiment and give the units.

*K*_c = units [3]

(f) (i) In order to make the ammonium nitrate fertiliser, some of the ammonia is oxidised to nitric acid in several stages shown by equations 36.4–36.6.

NH ₃ +O ₂ \rightarrow NO +H ₂ O	Equation 36.4
2NO + $O_2 \rightarrow 2NO_2$	Equation 36.5
$\rm 4NO_2~+~O_2~+~2H_2O~\rightarrow~4HNO_3$	Equation 36.6
The nitric acid formed is reacted with more ammonia.	

 $NH_3 + HNO_3 \rightarrow NH_4NO_3$ Equation 36.7

Use oxidation states or some other method to balance **equation 36.4**. [1]

 (f) (ii) The overall yield of the reactions in equations 36.4 – 36.6 is 77%. The yield of ammonium nitrate in equation 36.7 can be taken as 100%.

What mass (in tonnes) of ammonia is needed to make 25 tonnes of ammonium nitrate?

		mass of ammonia needed = tonnes	[4]
(f)	(iii)	Describe a test that would identify nitrate ions.	[2]

Total Marks for Question Set 21: 18



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