CHEM2 – Chemistry in Action Definitions to Learn

6. Energetics

Enthalpy change Change in heat energy measured at constant pressure

Standard enthalpy Enthalpy change when one mole of a compound is of formation, ΔH_f formed from its elements at 298K and 100 kPa

Standard enthalpy Enthalpy change when one mole of a substance is

of combustion, ΔH_c completely burnt at 298K and 100 kPa

Hess's Law Total enthalpy change is independent of route

Bond dissociation Enthalpy needed to break a covalent bond

enthalpy in the gas phase

Mean bond enthalpy Enthalpy required to break a covalent bond averaged over

many compounds

7. Kinetics

Activation energy Minimum energy needed for a reaction to occur

Catalyst Speeds up a reaction without being used up

Rate of reaction the change in concentration of a substance in a given time

(units are mol dm⁻³ s⁻¹)

8. Equilibria

Le Chatelier's Principle When the conditions on a system in equilibrium are changed,

the equilibrium moves to oppose the change

Dynamic equilibrium Forward rate = backward rate

Concentrations are constant

9. Alkenes

Stereoisomers same structural formula but different arrangement of atoms

in space

E/Z isomers isomers resulting from restricted rotation about a double

bond, where two different groups are attached to each

carbon of the C=C

Unsaturated contains one or more double C=C bonds

Electrophile electron pair acceptor

10. Alcohols

Fuel a substance that is burned to produce heat

Biofuel a fuel produced from biological sources

Carbon neutral an activity that has no net annual carbon emissions to the

atmosphere

11. Haloalkanes

Nucleophile lone pair donor

Hydrolysis breaking bonds using water

Radical contains an unpaired electron

12. Redox & Analytical Techniques

Oxidation loss of electrons or increase in oxidation number

Reduction gain of electrons or decrease in oxidation number

Oxidising agent electron acceptor

Reducing agent electron donor

Molecular ion complete molecule minus one electron