

Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry

Topic 7: Chemical reactions

Physical and chemical changes

Notes









Identify physical and chemical changes, and understand the differences between them

- Physical changes
 - o undergoing a physical change means no new substances are made, but there is a change to the appearance of a substance
 - e.g. being made into a mixture is a physical change since you can separate mixtures – since they consist of elements/compounds that are not chemically combined
 - E.g. fractional distillation of crude oil
 - o also includes changing state or dissolving
- Chemical changes
 - o A process of re-arrangement of the atoms present in the reactants to form one or more products, which have the same total number of each type of atoms as the reactants .
 - o E.g. neutralisation reactions to produce salts or rusting



