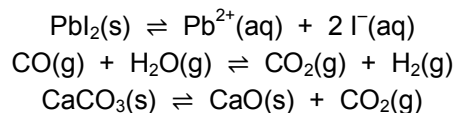




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2.5. The solubility product, K_{sp}

1. Define the following terms. Illustrate your definitions with examples from the box.



Homogeneous equilibrium

.....

Heterogeneous equilibrium

..... (4 marks)

The solubility product is a special example of a heterogeneous equilibrium.

When writing an expression for the equilibrium constant for a heterogeneous equilibrium, terms for pure solids or pure liquids are left out of the expression.

2. A student tests for the presence of chloride ions in solution by adding a solution of lead nitrate. A white precipitate of lead chloride is formed.

The precipitate exists in equilibrium with its ions;



- (a) Write an expression for K_{sp} for this equilibrium.

..... (1 mark)

- (b) Calculate the solubility of lead chloride at 298 K in mol dm^{-3} .

.....

.....

..... (2 marks)

- (c) Describe an experiment the student could do to obtain an experimental value for the solubility product, K_{sp} of lead chloride.

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... (3 marks)

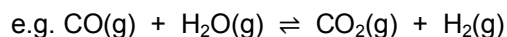


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2. Equilibria answers

2.5 The solubility product, K_{sp}

1. *Homogeneous equilibrium* = an equilibrium where all the substances are in the same phase.



Heterogeneous equilibrium = an equilibrium where all the substances are not all in the same phase.



(2 marks for each correct definition with matching correct example from the table)

2. (a) $K_{sp} = [\text{Pb}^{2+}][\text{Cl}^-]^2$ (1 mark)

- (b) At equilibrium call $[\text{Pb}^{2+}]$'s' and $[\text{Cl}^-]$ '2s'

Substituting into the equation for K_{sp} :

$$1.6 \times 10^{-5} = s \times (2s)^2 \quad (1 \text{ mark})$$

$$1.6 \times 10^{-5} = 4s^3$$

$$4 \times 10^{-6} = s^3 \text{ and hence } s = 0.0158$$

Therefore the solubility of lead chloride at 298 K is 0.016 mol dm⁻³. (1 mark)

- (c) **Step 1:** Dissolve as much lead chloride as possible in water, allowing the solution time to equilibrate.

Step 2: Filter off the undissolved lead chloride and measure out a known volume of the filtrate.

Step 3: Evaporate this volume of filtrate to dryness and record the mass of lead chloride left.

Step 4: Use this mass of lead chloride to determine $[\text{Pb}^{2+}]$ and $[\text{Cl}^-]$ in the original volume of filtrate and from these values calculate K_{sp} .

(3 marks for steps 1-3 clearly described)