Friday worksheet 4 – constructing a galvanic cell from an overall equation.

A galvanic cell is really a redox reaction that is separated into two half-reactions, the oxidation and reduction, that are separated and connected only by an external wire and a salt bridge. A general image of a galvanic cell is shown on the right.

The function of the external wire is to conduct electrons away from the half-cell that oxidation is occurring in to the half-cell where reduction is taking place. The salt bridge on the other hand contains positive and negative ions that move into each half cell to prevent a build-up of charge. Negative ions always flow into the oxidation half-cell while positive ions flow into the reduction half-cell.



1. Consider the following overall equations.

- i. Separate each into its oxidation and reduction half equations.
- ii. Construct a labelled galvanic cell that can be used to generate electricity from this overall equation.

The first one is done for you.

- a. $Cu^{2+}(aq) + Fe(s) \rightarrow Cu(s) + Fe^{2+}(aq)$ Identify the: - *oxidant* ____Cu^{2+}(aq)____ - *reductant* ____Fe(s)___ write the half reactions *oxidation* ---- Fe(s) \rightarrow Fe²⁺(aq) + 2e *Reduction* ----- Cu²⁺(aq) + 2e \rightarrow Cu(s) Draw the galvanic cell clearly labelling the:
 - anode
 - cathode
 - direction of electron flow
 - direction of positive and negative ion flow
 - polarity and material of each electrode
 - half equation of the reaction taking place in each half-cell.

* Note – if a metal element exists in the oxidation or reduction half equations in the solid state then electrodes can be constructed from this metal. eg In the oxidation half equation solid iron is present so solid iron metal can be used as the electrode for the anode. Fe(s) \rightarrow Fe²⁺(aq) + 2e In the reduction half equation solid copper is present so solid copper metal can be used as the electrode for the cathode. cu²⁺(aq) + 2e \rightarrow Cu(s)

If a metal is not present use either carbon or platinum electrodes.



- b. $2Fe^{3+}(aq) + Co(s) \rightarrow Co^{2+}(aq) + 2Fe^{2+}(aq)$ Identify the:
 - oxidant
 - reductant
 - write the half reactions
 - oxidation ----
 - Reduction -----

Draw the galvanic cell clearly labelling the:

- anode
- cathode
- direction of electron flow
- direction of positive and negative ion flow
- polarity and material of each electrode
- half equation of the reaction taking place in each half-cell.
- c. $Zn(s) + Sn^{4+}(aq) \rightarrow Zn^{2+}(aq) + Sn^{2+}(aq)$
 - Identify the:
 - oxidant ____
 - reductant _____
 - write the half reactions

oxidation ----

Reduction -----

Draw the galvanic cell clearly labelling the:

- anode
- cathode
- direction of electron flow
- direction of positive and negative ion flow
- polarity and material of each electrode
- half equation of the reaction taking place in each half-cell.
- d. $2AI(s) + 6H^+(aq) \rightarrow 3H_2(g) + 2AI^{3+}(aq)$ Identify the:
 - . - oxidant
 - reductant

write the half reactions

oxidation ----

Reduction -----

Draw the galvanic cell clearly labelling the:

- anode
- cathode
- direction of electron flow
- direction of positive and negative ion flow
- polarity and material of each electrode
- half equation of the reaction taking place in each half-cell.







- e. $Au^+(aq) + Fe^{2+}(aq) \rightarrow Fe^{3+}(aq) + Au(s)$ Identify the:
 - . - oxidant
 - reductant
 - write the half reactions
 - oxidation ----
 - Reduction -----

Draw the galvanic cell clearly labelling the:

- anode
- cathode
- direction of electron flow
- direction of positive and negative ion flow
- polarity and material of each electrode
- half equation of the reaction taking place in each half-cell.
- f. $Cu(s) + 2Ag^{+}(aq) \rightarrow 2Ag(s) + cu^{2+}(aq)$
 - Identify the:
 - oxidant ___
 - reductant _____
 - write the half reactions

oxidation ----

Reduction -----

Draw the galvanic cell clearly labelling the:

- anode
- cathode
- direction of electron flow
- direction of positive and negative ion flow
- polarity and material of each electrode
- half equation of the reaction taking place in each half-cell.

g. $2Ag^{+}(aq) + Pb(s) \rightarrow 2Ag(s) + Pb^{2+}(aq)$

Identify the:

- oxidant

reductant _____

write the half reactions

oxidation ----

Reduction -----

Draw the galvanic cell clearly labelling the:

- anode
- cathode
- direction of electron flow
- direction of positive and negative ion flow
- polarity and material of each electrode
- half equation of the reaction taking place in each half-cell.





