Equilibria

A-Level Chemistry · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
reversible reaction /rɪˈvɜːsɪbl rɪˈækʃn/	A **reversible reaction** can go both ways.
forward reaction /ˈfɔːwəd rɪˈækʃn/	In the **forward reaction**, nitrogen and hydrogen make ammonia.
reverse reaction /rɪˈvɜːs rɪˈækʃn/	In the **reverse reaction**, ammonia breaks down again.
closed system /kləʊzd ˈsɪstəm/	In a **closed system**, no energy goes in or out.
dynamic equilibrium /daɪˈnæmɪk ˌiːkwɪˈlɪbrɪəm/	At **dynamic equilibrium**, both reactions go at the same rate.
Le Chatelier's principle /lə ˈʃætlɪəz ˈprɪnsɪpl/	**Le Chatelier's principle** predicts how an equilibrium moves.
equilibrium /ˌiːkwɪˈlɪbrɪəm/	The book is in **equilibrium** because the forces balance.
catalyst /ˈkætəlɪst/	A **catalyst** speeds up a reaction without being used up.
equilibrium constant /ˌiːkwɪˈlɪbrɪəm ˈkɒnstənt/	A large **equilibrium constant** means mostly products.
heterogeneous	A **heterogeneous** mixture has more than one phase, such as a solid and a gas.
partial pressure /ˈpɑːʃl ˈpreʃə/	The **partial pressure** of oxygen in air is about 21 kPa. 21 kPa

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mole fraction /məʊl ˈfrækʃn/	The **mole fraction** of nitrogen in air is about 0.78. 0.78
Haber process /ˈheɪbə ˈprəʊses/	The **Haber process** makes ammonia.
Contact process /ˈkɒntækt ˈprəʊses/	The **Contact process** makes sulfuric acid.
proton /ˈprəʊtɒn/	A **proton** has a positive charge.
acid /ˈæsɪd/	Lemon juice is an **acid**.
proton donor /ˈprəʊtɒn ˈdəʊnə/	An acid is a **proton donor**.
base /beɪs/	Sodium hydroxide is a **base**.
proton acceptor /ˈprəʊtɒn əkˈseptə/	A base is a **proton acceptor**.
strong acid /strɒŋ ˈæsɪd/	Hydrochloric acid is a **strong acid**.
strong base /strɒŋ beɪs/	Sodium hydroxide is a **strong base**.
dissociated /dɪˈsəʊsɪeɪtɪd/	A strong acid is fully **dissociated** in water.
weak acid /wiːk ˈæsɪd/	Vinegar contains a **weak acid**.
weak base /wiːk beɪs/	Ammonia is a **weak base**.
universal indicator /ˌjuːnɪˈvɜːsl ˈɪndɪkeɪtə/	**Universal indicator** turns red in acid and purple in strong alkali.
Neutralisation /ˌnjuːtrəlaɪˈzeɪʃn/	**Neutralisation** of an acid with a base gives salt and water.

Word	Example
salt /sɒlt/	Sodium chloride is a **salt**.
titration /taɪˈtreɪʃn/	A **titration** finds the exact volume of acid needed.
titration curve /taɪˈtreɪʃn kɜːv/	The **titration curve** rises sharply at the end point.
indicator /ˈɪndɪkeɪtə/	The **indicator** changes colour at the end point.

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