

LESSON NOTES

Year/Level: 11 C/D

week 19

Subject: Chemistry

Strand	4 Materials
Sub Strand	4.1 metals and non-metals
Content Learning Outcome	Explain the physical and chemical properties and uses of selected metals Describe the production of iron and define alloys and identify the different types of alloys.

Metals

Properties of Metal

These elements are generally shiny/lustrous, good conductors of electricity, malleable (can be beaten into sheets), ductile (can be pulled into wires), and some are magnetic

Metals are commonly found in the earth's crust as metal deposits or ores

Differences between each metal depends on its property such as density and strength

Metal	Color	Melting pt (°C)	Boiling pt (°C)	Density (g/cm ³)	Uses
Sodium	Silver-grey	98	900	0.97	Plant micronutrient, needed for neuron function and osmoregulation in cells
Calcium	Silver-grey	840	1490	1.53	White wash, cleaning powder, toothpaste, and antacid.
Magnesium	Silver-grey	650	1100	1.74	Alloy is used in aerospace industry
Aluminium	Silver	660	2350	2.70	Cooking foil, electric wire for power lines
Zinc	Silver	420	913	7.14	Galvanise iron, zinc alloy, brass is used widely
Iron	Grey	1540	2760	7.87	Most commonly used metal. Its available cheaply and has a lot of strength so it is used in the building industries, make tools and body of ships.
Lead	Grey	328	1760	11.3	scuba diving weight belts, lead – acid car batteries
Copper	Brown	1085	2580	8.93	used in electrical wiring for appliances, home, and Telecom lines, Cooking pot

Reactivity of Metals

It is the order of oxidation of metals from the most easily oxidised to the least

Potassium,	K		<i>Most Active – easily oxidised</i>
Sodium,	Na		
Calcium,	Ca		
Magnesium	Mg		
Aluminium	Al		
Zinc	Zn		
Iron	Fe		
Hydrogen	H		
Tin	Sn		
Lead	Pb		
Copper	Cu		
Silver	Ag		
Gold	Au		<i>Least active</i>

Chemical Properties of Metals

Reaction with Air

Exposed metal react with oxygen in air to form metal oxides

Some of these metal oxides may combine with water to form hydroxides

The hydroxides are basic in nature

Metal	Reaction with Air	Observation
Sodium	$2\text{Na} + \text{O}_2 \longrightarrow \text{Na}_2\text{O}$	Forms a sodium oxide layer, white in color
Calcium	$2\text{Ca} + \text{O}_2 \longrightarrow 2\text{CaO}$	Develops a greyish white layer of calcium oxide
Magnesium	$2\text{Mg} + \text{O}_2 \longrightarrow 2\text{MgO}$	A layer of greyish white magnesium oxide will form Burns in air to form a brilliant white flame
Aluminium	$2\text{Al} + 3/2 \text{O}_2 \longrightarrow \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$	White oxide layer prevents the corrosion of Al
Zinc	$2\text{Zn} + \text{O}_2 \longrightarrow 2\text{ZnO}$	Burns with a green flame to form a white powder
Iron	$2\text{Fe} + 3/2\text{O}_2 \longrightarrow \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	Electroplating – The surface of the metal is electroplated with Tin, a less reactive metal. The iron surface is protected as tin does not corrode. Galvanising – The surface of the metal is coated with zinc, a more reactive metal. The iron surface is protected as the zinc will corrode first Greasing/Painting – The layer of grease or paint are water and air proof so the iron surface is dry and not exposed to air. Rusting will not take place Bluing – When strongly heated a blue iron oxide forms, it forms a layer on the surface of the iron preventing it from corrosion
Lead	$2\text{Pb} + \text{O}_2 \longrightarrow 2\text{PbO}$	Forms a yellow coat
Copper	$2\text{Cu} + \text{O}_2 \longrightarrow 2\text{CuO}$	Black coat

Reaction with Water

- Metals that react with water will release **hydrogen gas** and the **hydroxide of the metal** will form.
- The hydroxide is **basic** in nature.

Metal	Reaction with Water	Observation
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Sodium	$2\text{Na}_{(s)} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}_{(l)} \longrightarrow 2\text{NaOH}_{(aq)} + \text{H}_{2(g)}$	Very reactive hence, kept under oil in labs Reacts explosively with water
Calcium	$\text{Ca}_{(s)} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \longrightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{OH})_{2(aq)} + \text{H}_{2(g)}$	reacts vigorously
Magnesium	$\text{Mg}_{(s)} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_{(l)} \longrightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{OH})_{2(aq)} + \text{H}_{2(g)}$	Forms hydrogen gas and metal hydroxide
Zinc	$\text{Zn}_{(s)} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_{(l)} \longrightarrow \text{ZnO}_{(s)} + \text{H}_{2(g)}$	It does not react with cold water, but red hot zinc will react with steam to form zinc oxide and hydrogen gas.
Iron	$3\text{Fe}_{(s)} + 4\text{H}_2\text{O}_{(g)} \longrightarrow \text{Fe}_3\text{O}_{4(s)} + 4\text{H}_{2(g)}$	It does not react with cold water, but steam passed over heated iron will blue black magnetic oxide of iron.
Lead, Aluminium, Copper	Does not reacts with water	

Test for Hydrogen gas

Bring a glowing splint near the mouth of the test tube containing hydrogen gas. It burns with a “pop” sound.

Reaction of Metal with Dilute Acids

- The reaction of dilute acid with metals produces metal chloride and hydrogen gas
- Potassium, Sodium and calcium react explosively with dilute acids and magnesium show vigorous reaction.
- Iron and Zinc react slowly with dilute acids
- Aluminum may show no reaction due to the presence of oxide coat which will first react with the acid.

Example



Activity

1. Out of the four metals given below, the most reactive metal is _____.
A. Fe B. Zn C. Al D. K

2,Aluminium is a more reactive metal than iron, however it does not rust or corrode.
Provide an explanation for the above statement.

3. Which of the following is a correct use of zinc metal?

- A. Strengthening of teeth.
- B. Galvanisation of iron nails.
- C. Weight belts for scuba diving.
- D. Electrical wire for power line