

Acids & Bases Notes

I) Acids

II) Definition

- a) An acid is a solution that has an excess of H^+ ions. It comes from the Latin word *acidus* that means "sharp" or "sour".
- b) The more H^+ ions, the more acidic the solution.

III) Properties of an Acid

- a) Tastes Sour
- b) Conduct Electricity
- c) Corrosive, which means they break down certain substances. Many acids can corrode fabric, skin, and paper
- d) Some acids react strongly with metals
- e) Turns blue litmus paper red

IV) Uses of Acids

- a) Acetic Acid = Vinegar
- b) Citric Acid = lemons, limes, & oranges. It is in many sour candies such as lemonhead & sour patch.
- c) Ascorbic acid = Vitamin C which your body needs to function.
- d) Sulfuric acid is used in the production of fertilizers, steel, paints, and plastics.
- e) Car batteries

V) Bases

VI) Definition

- a) A base is a solution that has an excess of OH^- ions.
- b) Another word for base is alkali.
- c) Bases are substances that can accept hydrogen ions

VII) Properties of a Base

- a) Feel Slippery
- b) Taste Bitter
- c) Corrosive
- d) Can conduct electricity. (Think alkaline batteries.)

- e) Do not react with metals.
- f) Turns red litmus paper blue.

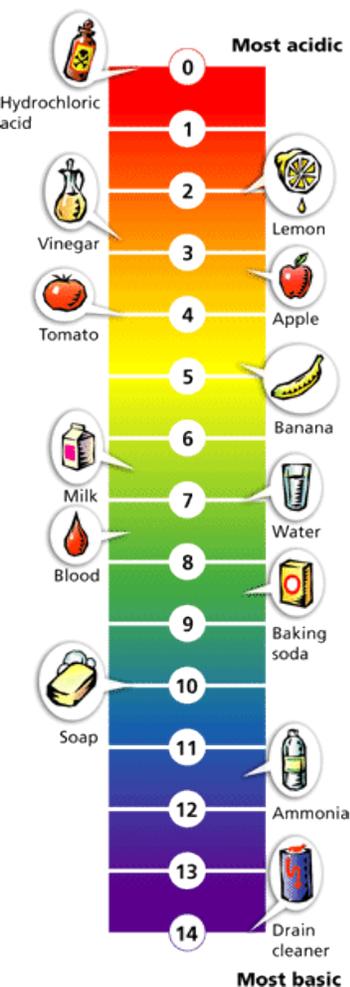
VIII) Uses of Bases

- a) Bases give soaps, ammonia, and many other cleaning products some of their useful properties.
- b) The OH⁻ ions interact strongly with certain substances, such as dirt and grease.
- c) Chalk and oven cleaner are examples of familiar products that contain bases.
- d) Your blood is a basic solution.

IX) pH Scale

a) Definition

- b) pH is a measure of how acidic or basic a solution is.
- c) The pH scale ranges from 0 to 14.
- d) Acidic solutions have pH values below 7
- e) A solution with a pH of 0 is very acidic.
- f) A solution with a pH of 7 is neutral.
- g) Pure water has a pH of 7.
- h) Basic solutions have pH values above 7.



X) Acid – Base Reactions

- a) A reaction between an acid and a base is called *neutralization*. An acid-base mixture is not as acidic or basic as the individual starting solutions.