Chemguide - answers

GROUP 4: INSOLUBLE LEAD COMPOUNDS

1. a) dilute hydrochloric acid:

Adding a colourless solution of hydrochloric acid to a colourless solution of lead(II) nitrate produces a white precipitate.

$$Pb^{2+}_{(aq)} + 2Cl^{-}_{(aq)} \longrightarrow PbCl_{2(s)}$$

b) dilute sulphuric acid:

Adding a colourless solution of sulphuric acid to a colourless solution of lead(II) nitrate produces a white precipitate.

$$Pb^{2+}_{(aq)} + SO^{2-}_{4(aq)} \rightarrow PbSO_{4(s)}$$

c) sodium iodide solution:

Adding a colourless solution of sodium iodide to a colourless solution of lead(II) nitrate produces a yellow precipitate.

 $Pb^{2+}_{(aq)} + 2l^{-}_{(aq)} \longrightarrow Pbl_{2(s)}$

d) sodium hydroxide solution:

Adding a small amount of a colourless solution of sodium hydroxide to a colourless solution of lead(II) nitrate produces a white precipitate.

 $Pb^{2+}_{(aq)}$ + $2OH^{-}_{(aq)}$ \longrightarrow $Pb(OH)_{2(s)}$

If you add an excess of sodium hydroxide solution, the precipitate dissolves to give a colourless solution.

The two logical equations for this second stage would be (depending on whether you are using the Chemguide page as your source, or something you have learnt elsewhere – you will meet both of these):

 $Pb(OH)_{2(s)} + 2OH_{(aq)}^{\cdot} \longrightarrow PbO_{2}^{2\cdot}_{(aq)} + 2H_{2}O_{(l)}$ or $Pb(OH)_{2(s)} + 2OH_{(aq)}^{\cdot} \longrightarrow Pb(OH)_{4}^{2\cdot}_{(aq)}$

(Note: If a question asks you to describe a reaction, describe everything, however trivial. It is *not* enough to name the product, but not describe it. Should you name it as well? Technically, no, if the question doesn't ask you to. In practice, it would probably be a good idea to name it to be on the safe side – but don't fall into the trap of thinking that the name counts as a description!

Note also: ionic equations for precipitation reactions should show state symbols.)