

Science 1.8 AS 90947 Investigate selected chemical reactions

Thermal Decomposition Reactions – Writing Word and Symbol Equations **Answers**

Success Criteria: complete each level before moving onto the next

- Basic: write **word equations** for the following thermal decomposition reactions
- Proficient: write **symbol equations** for the following thermal decomposition reactions
- Advanced: **balance the symbol equations** for the following thermal decomposition reactions

Remember: **metal carbonate** → **metal oxide + carbon dioxide gas**
metal hydrogen carbonate → **metal carbonate + carbon dioxide gas + water**

1. calcium carbonate powder is heated. Calcium carbonate is found in limestone rock and mollusc shells.

Word equation **calcium carbonate → calcium oxide + carbon dioxide gas**

Symbol equation **$\text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaO} + \text{CO}_2$**

2. sodium hydrogen carbonate powder is heated.

Word equation **sodium hydrogen carbonate → sodium carbonate + carbon dioxide gas + water**

Symbol equation **$2\text{NaHCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$**

3. copper carbonate powder is heated.

Word equation **copper carbonate → copper oxide + carbon dioxide gas**

Symbol equation **$\text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuO} + \text{CO}_2$**

4. magnesium hydrogen carbonate powder is heated.

Word equation **magnesium hydrogen carbonate → magnesium carbonate + carbon dioxide gas + water**

Symbol equation **$\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$**

5. iron (II) carbonate powder is heated. Iron carbonate is an important iron ore.

Word equation **iron carbonate → iron oxide + carbon dioxide**

Symbol equation **$\text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeO} + \text{CO}_2$**

6. potassium carbonate powder is heated. Potassium carbonate is used in the production of glass.

Word equation **potassium carbonate → potassium oxide + carbon dioxide**

Symbol equation **$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3 \rightarrow \text{K}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}_2$**