

**Topic 5** Exercise 3 – Changing the Position of Equilibrium

1. Consider the following exothermic reaction:

$$4HCl(g) + O_2(g) == 2Cl_2(g) + 2H_2O(g)$$

State, with a reason, what would happen to the amounts of chlorine and hydrogen chloride in the system if the following changes were made after equilibrium had been established in a sealed container:

- a) water is removed from the system;
- b) extra oxygen is added to the system;
- c) the volume of the container was reduced;
- d) the temperature of the container was increased;
- e) a catalyst was added.
- 2. For each of the following reactions, state and explain whether a high or low temperature and a high or low pressure should be used to maximize the yield of product:
  - a)  $2SO_2(g) + O_2(g) == 2SO_3(g)$ , H = -ve
  - b)  $PCl_5(g) == PCl_3(g) + Cl_2(g), H = +ve$
  - c)  $H_2(g) + I_2(g) == 2HI(g), H = -ve \times$
  - d)  $HCOOH(1) + CH_3OH(1) == HCCOCH_3(1) + H_2O(1), H = 0$
- 3. The manufacture of ammonia by the Haber process is an important example of an industrial process which involves an equilibrium reaction:

$$N_2(g) + 3H_2(g) = 2NH_3(g), H = -ve$$

The reaction is carried out at 450 °C and 250 atm with an iron catalyst.

- a) Give one reason why a higher temperature is not used.
- b) Give one reason why a lower temperature is not used.
- c) Give one reason why a higher pressure is not used.
- d) Give two reasons why a lower pressure is not used.
- e) Explain why a catalyst is used.