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The Copper Test Tube Demonstration Worksheet

Discussion Questions

1. Describe what happened in this demonstration.

2. In this demonstration, copper from the copper(II) sulfate solution (Fehling's Solution A) is reduced to copper metal. Write a balanced chemical equation for the reduction half-reaction.

3. The inside of the test tube was scoured with steel wool and rinsed with nitric acid, acidified stannous chloride solution, and silver nitrate solution. The steel wool and the nitric acid were used to make sure the test tube was completely clean. What do you think the purpose of the tin and silver solutions was?

4. What is oxidation/reduction?

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