Question #76820 - Chemistry - General Chemistry

If you start with 5 moles of H_2 and react it with 2 moles of O_2 , in a closed container, what best describes the contents of the container after a complete reaction?

2H₂ + O₂ --> 2 H₂O

Solution

As is clear from the chemical equation, the molar ratio $H_2/O_2 = 2/1$. $n(H_2)/n(O_2) = 5/2 = 2.5$

 H_2 was taken in excess and some part of it remains unreacted. O_2 is limiting reactant, it reacts completely and 0 moles of O_2 remains unreacted.

Number of moles of H_2O produced may be calculated from the proportion:

 $1 \text{ mol} (O_2) - 2 \text{ mol} (H_2O)$ (according to the chemical equation)

2 mol (O₂) – X mol (H₂O)

X = 2 \cdot 2 / 1 = 4 mol of H₂O are produced.

Number of moles of H_2 reacted:

 $1 \text{ mol}(O_2) - 2 \text{ mol}(H_2)$ (according to the chemical equation)

2 mol (O₂) - Y mol (H₂)

 $Y = 2 \cdot 2 / 1 = 4 \text{ mol}$

Number of moles of H₂ remained:

 $5 - 4 = 1 \text{ mol of } H_2 \text{ remains}$

Answer

After a complete reaction will be 4 mol of H_2O and 1 mol of H_2 in a closed container.

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