Chemistry (Chapter 2)

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Atoms (elements)

The smallest particles of ordinary matter

- There are just over 100 types of atoms
- Each atom has an atomic symbol (a one or two letter abbreviation)
- The 12 major atoms that are abundant in living things:

C (carbon)

H (hydrogen)

O (oxygen)

N (nitrogen)

Ca (calcium)

P (phosphorus)

K (potassium)

S (sulfur)

Na (sodium)

Cl (chlorine)

Fe (iron)

Mg (magnesium)

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Molecule (compound)

A particle made out of atoms joined together

• Covalent bond = the "glue" that joins atoms together in molecules

 $\sqrt{\text{Covalent bonds are shown as a line}}$

 $\sqrt{\text{Example molecules:}}$

O-O	H / O \ H	H–N–H I H	O C O
Oxygen	Water	Ammonia	Carbon dioxide

Fig 2.10

Molecular formula

A way to write a molecule

• All the atomic symbols of the atoms in the molecule are written together, with small numbers to show how many of each atom there are:

Example: $H_2O = a$ molecule of water. It is made of two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom

• A large number in front of the molecular formula shows how many molecules are present:

Example: $3H_2O =$ Three water molecules

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Ion (electrolyte, salt)

An electrically charged atom or molecule

- The type of charge (positive or negative) and the amount of charge are shown in the upper right of each ion
- Anions = Negatively charged ions
- Cations = Positively charged ions
- The body contains many ions that are important for life processes

 Na^+ K^+ Mg^{2+} Ca^{2+} Cl^-

• Molecule ions have special names:

 HCO_3^- = bicarbonate ion PO_4^{3-} = phosphate ion (or P) OH^- = hydroxide ion

Fig 2.8; Tables 24.6 and 26.1

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Chemical reaction

When molecules are changed (atoms added or atoms removed from molecules)

- Chemical reactions are written in this way:
 - a) All the reactants (old molecules) are written on the left
 - b) An arrow is written in the middle
 - c) All the products (new molecules) are written on the right.
- Example: $C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2 \rightarrow 6CO_2 + 6H_2O$

Metabolism

All the chemical reactions in the body

• There are thousands of metabolic reactions taking place in the body at all times

Fig 1.6