## AS Level Organic Chemistry

Balancing Redox Equations using oxidation states

## Using oxidation states to balance redox equations

1. Write the equation and balance it with respect to atoms.
2. Write oxidation numbers down of the atoms that are oxidised or reduced so you can see clearly the numerical change.
3. Balance with respect to change in oxidation states.

Example 1
$\mathrm{MnO}_{4}^{-+} \mathrm{H}^{+}+\mathrm{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \mathrm{Mn}^{2+}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$

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$\mathrm{MnO}_{4}^{-}+4 \mathrm{H}^{+}+\mathrm{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \mathrm{Mn}^{2+}+8 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$
$+7+2+2+3$

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+7
\end{array}
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$+2$
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$\mathrm{MnO}_{4}+4 \mathrm{H}^{+}+5 \mathrm{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \mathrm{Mn}^{2+}+8 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+5 \mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$



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Example 1 - Answer:
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## Example 2

$\mathrm{Cr}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{7}{ }^{2-}(\mathrm{aq})+\mathrm{Sn}^{2+}(\mathrm{aq})+\mathrm{H}^{+}(\mathrm{aq}) \rightarrow \mathrm{Cr}^{3+}(\mathrm{aq})+\mathrm{Sn}^{4+}(\mathrm{aq})+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(\mathrm{I})$

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$\mathrm{Cr}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{7}^{2-}(\mathrm{aq})+\mathrm{Sn}^{2+}(\mathrm{aq})+14 \mathrm{H}^{+}(\mathrm{aq}) \rightarrow 2 \mathrm{Cr}^{3+}(\mathrm{aq})+\mathrm{Sn}^{4+}(\mathrm{aq})+7 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(\mathrm{I})$

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## +6 $+3 \times 2$

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