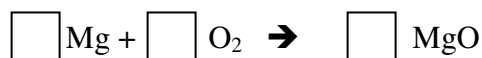


Balancing Act

Name _____

Atoms are not _____ or _____ during a chemical reaction. Scientists know that there must be the _____ number of atoms on each _____ of the _____. To balance the chemical equation, you must add _____ in front of the chemical formulas in the equation. You cannot _____ or _____ subscripts!

1) Determine number of atoms for each element.



2) Pick an element that is not equal on both sides of the equation.

Mg =

Mg =

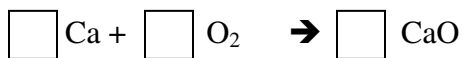
3) Add a coefficient in front of the formula with that element and adjust your counts.

O =

O =

4) Continue adding coefficients to get the same number of atoms of each element on each side.

Try these:

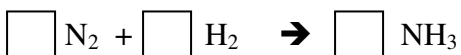


Ca =

Ca =

O =

O =

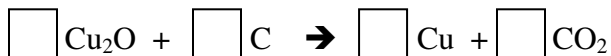


N =

N =

H =

H =



Cu =

Cu =

O =

O =

C =

C =



H =

H =

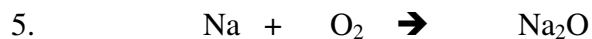
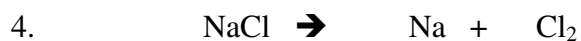
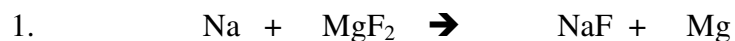
O =

O =

Balancing Act Practice

Name _____

Balance each equation. Be sure to show your lists! Remember you cannot add subscripts or place coefficients in the middle of a chemical formula.



Challenge: This one is tough!

