## **CONCEPT: REACTION QUOTIENT**

## **Calculating the Reaction Quotient**

- The **Reaction Quotient** ( \_\_\_ ) is a \_\_\_\_\_ of product to reactant concentrations at a particular time.
  - □ Like the equilibrium constant it can be calculated by setting up an expression and ignoring \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_.

**EXAMPLE**: The formation of gaseous ammonia is displayed by the equation given below:

$$N_2(g) + 3 H_2(g) \rightleftharpoons 2 NH_3(g)$$

What is the reaction quotient if the following amounts (in moles) of each component is placed in a 10.0 L vessel.

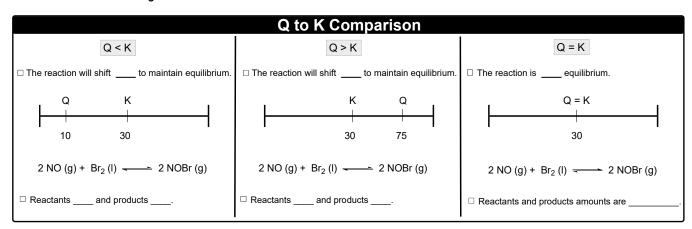
 $N_2 = 0.650 \text{ moles}$ 

 $H_2 = 0.330 \text{ moles}$ 

 $NH_3 = 0.529$  moles

## **Comparing Q to K**

- Once you've determined Q compare it to K to determine which direction the chemical reaction will shift.
  - $\hfill\Box$  \_\_\_\_ will always shift towards \_\_\_\_ in order to maintain equilibrium.
    - The balanced chemical equation will shift in the \_\_\_\_\_ direction as Q.
    - Shifting towards a side causes all molecules on that side to \_\_\_\_ in amount.



**EXAMPLE:** For the reaction: 4 HBr (g) +  $O_2$  (g)  $\rightleftharpoons 2$  Br<sub>2</sub> (g) + 2 H<sub>2</sub>O (l), the equilibrium constant is 0.063 at 400 K. If the reaction quotient is 0.100, which of the following statements is true?

- a) [HBr] will decrease
- b) [O<sub>2</sub>] will increase
- c) [Br<sub>2</sub>] will increase
- d) [H<sub>2</sub>O] will increase

## **CONCEPT: REACTION QUOTIENT**

**PRACTICE**: For the reaction:  $2 \text{ CO}_2$  (g)  $\rightleftharpoons 2 \text{ CO}$  g) +  $2 \text{ O}_2$  (g), the equilibrium constant is  $3.12 \times 10^{-4}$  at 400 K, while the reaction quotient is  $4.18 \times 10^{-4}$ . If initially we have 0.20 atm CO<sub>2</sub>, 0.30 atm CO and 0.15 atm O<sub>2</sub>, which of the following statements is **not** true?

- a) The pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> will be greater than 0.20 atm.
- b) The pressure of CO will be less than 0.30 atm.
- c) The pressure of O<sub>2</sub> will be greater than 0.15 atm.
- d) The pressure of O<sub>2</sub> will be less than 0.15 atm.
- e) The reaction will favor reactants.

**PRACTICE:** The equilibrium constant for the following gas phase reaction is 0.75 at 750 K. After a short time, analysis of a small amount of the reaction mixture shows the concentrations to be [NOBr] = 1.25 M, [NO] = 0.80 M and [Br<sub>2</sub>] = 0.50 M. Which of the following statements is/are true?

$$2 \text{ NOBr } (g) \rightleftharpoons \text{NO } (g) + \text{Br}_2 (g)$$

- a) The reaction mixture is at equilibrium.
- b) No further reaction will occur.
- c) The partial pressure of NOBr will increase.
- d) The partial pressure of NO will increase.
- e) The reaction will shift to the left, the reactant side.