Identify the precipitate that forms when aqueous solutions of zinc nitrate and ammonium sulfide are combined. Write the equation for the possible double-displacement reaction. Then write the formula equation, overall ionic equation, and net ionic equation for the reaction.

# **SOLUTION**

#### 1 ANALYZE

**Given:** identity of reactants: zinc nitrate and ammonium sulfide reaction medium: aqueous solution

**Unknown: a.** equation for the possible double-displacement reaction **b.** identity of the precipitate **c.** formula equation **d.** overall ionic equation **e.** net ionic equation

### 2 PLAN

Write the possible double-displacement reaction between  $Zn(NO_3)_2$  and  $(NH_4)_2S$ . Use **Table 1** to determine if any of the products are insoluble and will precipitate. Write a formula equation and an overall ionic equation, and then cancel the spectator ions to produce a net ionic equation.

### **3** COMPUTE

**a.** The equation for the possible double-displacement reaction is as follows.

$$Zn(NO_3)_2(aq) + (NH_4)_2S(aq) \longrightarrow ZnS(?) + 2NH_4NO_3(?)$$

- **b. Table 1** reveals that zinc sulfide is not a soluble sulfide and is therefore a precipitate. Ammonium nitrate is soluble according to the table.
- c. The formula equation is as follows.

$$Zn(NO_3)_2(aq) + (NH_4)_2S(aq) \longrightarrow ZnS(s) + 2NH_4NO_3(aq)$$

**d.** The overall ionic equation is as follows.

$$Zn^{2+}(aq) + 2NO_3^-(aq) + 2NH_4^+(aq) + S^{2-}(aq) \longrightarrow ZnS(s) + 2NH_4^+(aq) + 2NO_3^-(aq)$$

**e.** The ammonium and nitrate ions appear on both sides of the equation as spectator ions. The net ionic equation is as follows.

$$\operatorname{Zn}^{2+}(aq) + \operatorname{S}^{2-}(aq) \longrightarrow \operatorname{ZnS}(s)$$

# **PRACTICE**

### Answers in Appendix E

- 1. Will a precipitate form if solutions of potassium sulfate and barium nitrate are combined? If so, write the net ionic equation for the reaction.
- 2. Will a precipitate form if solutions of potassium nitrate and magnesium sulfate are combined? If so, write the net ionic equation for the reaction.
- **3.** Will a precipitate form if solutions of barium chloride and sodium sulfate are combined? If so, identify the spectator ions and write the net ionic equation.
- **4.** Write the net ionic equation for the precipitation of nickel(II) sulfide.

# extension

Go to **go.hrw.com** for more practice problems that ask you to identify precipitates that form when solutions are combined.

