SOLUTION

1 ANALYZE

Given: chemical formula, Na₂CO₃•10H₂O molar mass of Na₂CO₃•10H₂O Unknown: mass percentage of H₂O

2 PLAN

chemical formula → mass H₂O per mole of Na₂CO₃•10H₂O → % water

The mass of water per mole of sodium carbonate decahydrate must first be found. This value is then divided by the mass of one mole of Na₂CO₃•10H₂O.

3 *COMPUTE*

One mole of $Na_2CO_3 \cdot 10H_2O$ contains 10 mol H_2O . Recall from page 239 that the molar mass of H_2O is 18.02 g/mol. The mass of 10 mol H_2O is calculated as follows.

$$10 \text{ mol H}_2\text{O} \times \frac{18.02 \text{ g H}_2\text{O}}{\text{mol H}_2\text{O}} = 180.2 \text{ g H}_2\text{O}$$

mass of H_2O per mole of $Na_2CO_3 \cdot 10H_2O = 180.2$ g

The molar mass of Na₂CO₃•10H₂O is 286.19 g/mol, so we know that 1 mol of the hydrate has a mass of 286.19g. The mass percentage of 10 mol H₂O in 1 mol Na₂CO₃•10H₂O can now be calculated.

mass percentage of
$$H_2O$$
 in $Na_2CO_3 \cdot 10H_2O = \frac{180.2 \text{ g H}_2O}{286.19 \text{ g N}a_2CO_3 \cdot 10H_2O} \times 100 = 62.97\% \text{ H}_2O$

4 EVALUATE

Checking shows that the arithmetic is correct and that units cancel as desired.

PRACTICE

Answers in Appendix E

- 1. Find the percentage compositions of the following:
 - a. PbCl₂
- **b.** Ba(NO₃)₂
- 2. Find the mass percentage of water in ZnSO₄•7H₂O.
- **3.** Magnesium hydroxide is 54.87% oxygen by mass. How many grams of oxygen are in 175 g of the compound? How many moles of oxygen is this?

extension

Go to **go.hrw.com** for more practice problems that ask you to calculate percentage composition.



SECTION REVIEW

- **1.** Determine both the formula mass and molar mass of ammonium carbonate, (NH₄)₂CO₃.
- 2. How many moles of atoms of each element are there in one mole of (NH₄)₂CO₃?
- **3.** What is the mass in grams of 3.25 mol $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$?
- **4.** How many molecules of aspirin, C₉H₈O₄, are there in a 100.0 mg tablet of aspirin?

5. Calculate the percentage composition of (NH₄)₂CO₃.

Critical Thinking

6. RELATING IDEAS A sample of hydrated copper(II) sulfate (CuSO₄ • nH₂O) is heated to 150°C and produces 103.74 g anhydrous copper(II) sulfate and 58.55 g water. How many moles of water molecules are present in 1.0 mol of hydrated copper(II) sulfate?