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Chem!stry class:

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Energy from Chemicals – Hydrogen Fuel Cells

In the future, hydrogen fuel cells may be used to power cars.

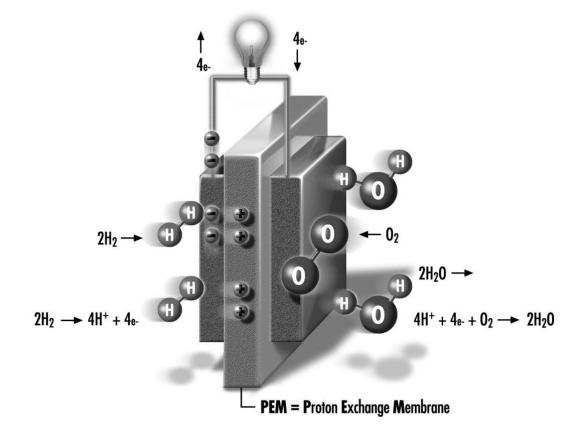
In a hydrogen fuel cell, the overall reaction is represented by the equation:

$$2H_{2(g)} + O_{2(g)} \rightarrow 2H_2O_{(1)}$$

	$Z_1 I_2(g) \longrightarrow Z_1 I_2 O(f)$
a)	Explain why this reaction is exothermic in terms of bond breaking and bond formation.
b)	The overall reaction in a hydrogen fuel cell can also represented in the following way:
	$H-H$ + $H-H$ + $O=O$ \rightarrow $H-O-H$ + $H-O-H$
	Using the average bond energies given below, calculate the overall energy change for the reaction.
	H-H = 436 kJ/mol $O=O = 496 kJ/mol$ $O-H = 463 kJ/mol$

c)	Why are fuel cells described as being a "source of clean energy"?
d)	In what form does the energy created by a fuel cell exist?

e) Study the diagram of the hydrogen fuel cell shown below:



Describe the chemical changes taking place inside a hydrogen fuel cell that allow it to generate electrical energy.

f) What are the possible problems associated with hydrogen fuel cells?

• Scan the QR Code below for the answers to this assignment.



http://www.chemist.sg/energy_changes/hydrogen_fuel_cells_ans.pdf