



SUMMARY OF NAMING AND FORMULA WRITING

In the average home, there are probably hundreds of chemicals, including cleaning products, drugs, and pesticides.

Most people would not know what to do if some of these chemicals accidentally mixed together and began to react, or, even worse, if a small child ingested one of these chemicals. A phone call to a poison-control center can provide life-saving information to victims of such poisonings. On the inside front cover of most phone books is a list of phone numbers for regional centers and other emergency numbers.

Why would knowing the correct name of a chemical be important to a poison-control center worker?

objectives

- ▶ Use the flowchart in Figure 6.21 to write the name of a compound when given its chemical formula
- ▶ Use the flowchart in Figure 6.23 to write a chemical formula when given the name of a compound

Practicing Skills: Follow the Arrows

In this chapter, you have learned two basic skills: writing chemical formulas and naming chemical compounds. If this is the first time you have tried to master these skills, you may feel a little overwhelmed at this point. For example, you may find it difficult to know when to use prefixes and Roman numerals in a name, and when not to do so. Or you may have trouble determining if a compound's name should end in *-ate*, *-ide*, or *-ite*. The flowchart in Figure 6.21 is designed to help you name compounds correctly. Follow the arrows on the flowchart to find directions for naming a particular compound. By using the flowchart while working exercises, you will increase your skill at naming compounds.

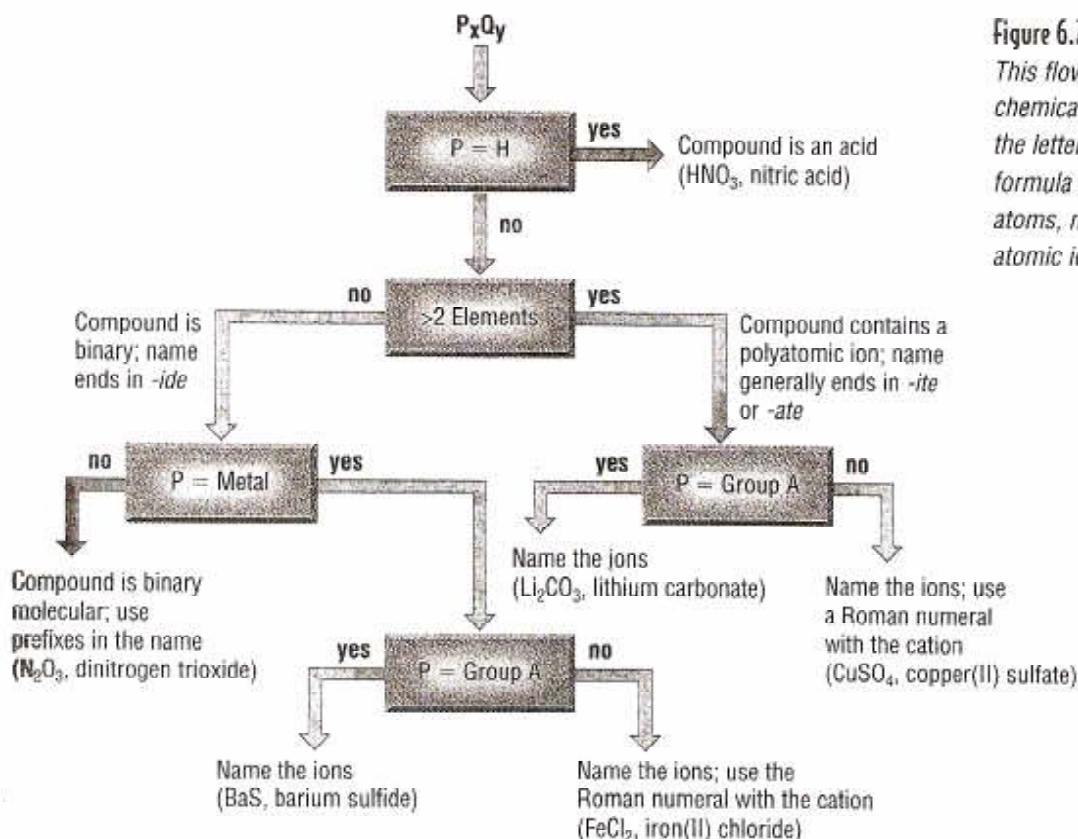


Figure 6.21

This flowchart will help you name chemical compounds. Begin with the letters P and Q in the general formula P_xQ_y . P and Q can be atoms, monatomic ions, or polyatomic ions.