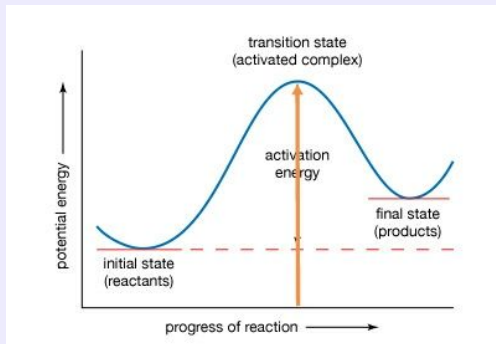


Activation Energy Diagram

SOURCE

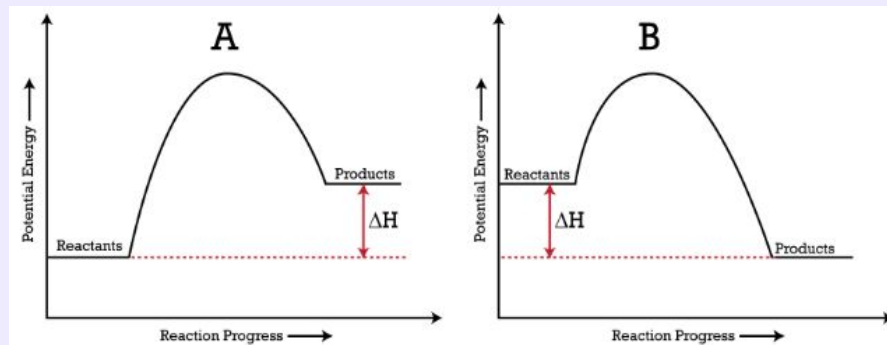
- The activation energy in a reaction is called the **activation energy barrier**. The height of the hill between the reactants and the products in the potential energy diagram displays the **activation energy**.
- Whatever particles are reacting, they must have enough energy. Because when they **collide**, they can overcome the challenge of that barrier.



Potential Energy Diagram

SOURCE

- A potential energy diagram plots the change in potential energy that occurs during a chemical reaction.



The above figure shows energy diagrams for **(A) an endothermic reaction** and **(B) an exothermic reaction**. The **enthalpy change** is denoted by (ΔH). The endothermic reaction has a **positive (ΔH)**, whereas the exothermic reaction has a **negative (ΔH)**.