What is the limiting reagent when  $3.1 \text{ mol of } SO_2$  react with  $2.7 \text{ mol of } O_2$  according to the equation:

$$2SO_2 + O_2 \rightarrow 2SO_3$$

Answer: According to the reaction equation, 2 moles of  $SO_2$  fully react with 1 mole of  $O_2$ , theoretical molar ratio is 2:1. And the real molar ratio is:  $n(SO_2)/n(O_2) = 3.1/2.7 = 1.15:1$ .

As you can see,  $SO_2$  is in deficit in comparison to the theoretical ratio. It means, that  $SO_2$  is the limiting reagent.