

A student determines that a sample of an unidentified compound contains 0.8 mol sulfur and 2.4 mol oxygen. The student concludes that the chemical formula for the unidentified compound is  $S_{0.8}O_{2.4}$ . The student's teacher explains that this chemical formula is not possible.

- a. Explain why the chemical formula  $S_{0.8}O_{2.4}$  is not possible.
- b. Identify the **most likely** chemical formula for the unidentified compound, assuming that the molar ratio is correct. Show or explain your reasoning.
- A second student determines that another sample contains 0.5 mol sulfur and 1.0 mol oxygen.
- c. Determine whether the two students' samples are the same compound. Explain your answer.