



JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY  
IN KRAKOW

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# **SAILING ON AN ANALYTE – RESULTS OF A CASE STUDY ON GALVANIC CELLS UNIT AT UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVEL**

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## In Polish curriculum:

„(...) The student acquires knowledge in a research way - observe, checks, verifies, conclude and request (...)”

Teacher opinion about implementation of IBSE to the school practice in Poland<sup>1</sup>:

- Not enough time
- Problems with assessment
- Lack of sufficient laboratory equipment
- It is difficult for weaker students
- Poor teachers' preparation
- Poor cooperation between teachers
- Lack of students' preparation
- Lack of proper textbooks

Supporting factors:

- Requirements of external examinations
- Motivation to learn
- Students' opinions
- Curricula
- School management
- Teacher unions
- Industry requirements

<sup>1</sup>Bernard P, Maciejowska I, Odrowąż, Dudek K. Introduction of inquiry based science education into Polish science curriculum - general findings of teachers' attitude. Chem Dydaktyka Ekol Metrol. 2012;17(1-2):49-59. DOI: 10.2478/cdem-2013-0004.

Galvanic cell unit is addressed to students from upper secondary school, who learn chemistry at high level.

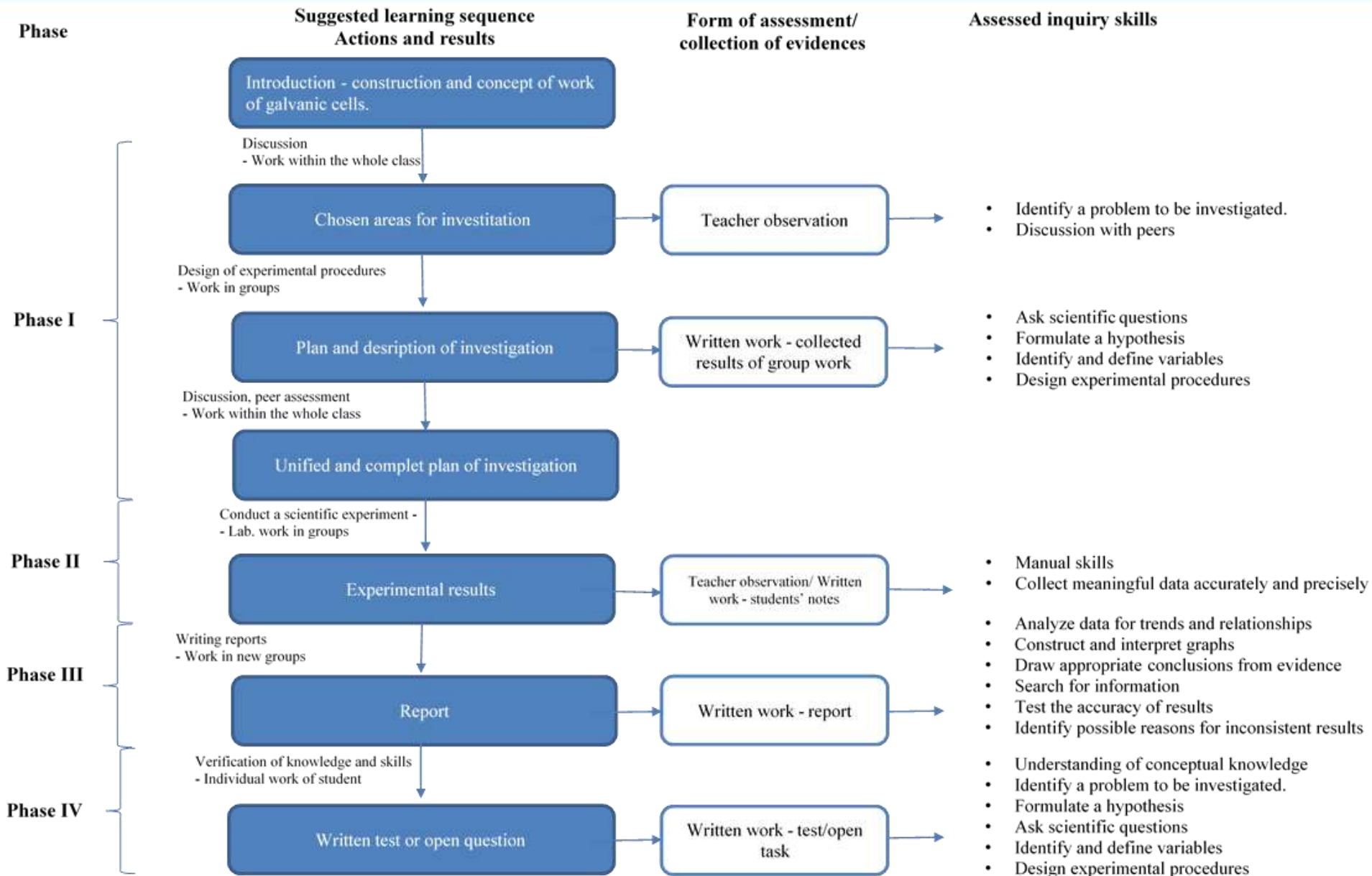
Level of education/type of school: **upper secondary**

Students' age: **17-18 y.o.**

Size of the group: **6 pupils**

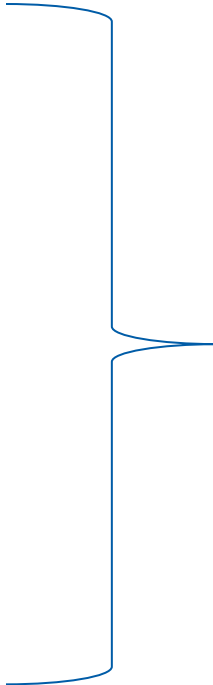
Teacher's experience in IBSE: **first time uses IBSE**

Pupils' experience in IBSE: **first implementation**



## Assessed skills:

- Formulating hypothesis,
- Designing an experimental procedure
- Conclusions and evaluation



Assessment  
tools

<b>Aspects of the hypothesis evaluation:</b>	YES	NO
The hypothesis is formulated in a simple and clear way - the more complicated formulation of the hypothesis, the more difficult its verification.		
The hypothesis is an adequate answer to the stated problem / research question.		
The hypothesis is at the appropriate level.		
The hypothesis is verifiable with the use of available resources / materials.		
The hypothesis is not obvious.		
The hypothesis has justification that is adequate for a particular level of education		

POOR	CORRECT	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT
<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>partly selects reagents and laboratory equipment with the help of a teacher.</li> <li>develops experimental method that does not take into account dependent or independent variable or does not develop any method</li> <li>presents incomplete or inadequate sequence of causes and effects</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>selects reagents and laboratory equipment inadequately or with the help of a teacher</li> <li>develops experimental method that takes into account dependent and independent variable</li> <li>presents incomplete sequence of causes and effects</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>correctly selects reagents and laboratory equipment</li> <li>develops experimental method that takes into account dependent and independent variable and some control variables</li> <li>presents logical but incomplete sequence of causes and effects</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>correctly selects reagents and laboratory equipment</li> <li>develops experimental method that takes into account all variables</li> <li>presents complete sequence of causes and effects that takes into account all experimental conditions.</li> <li>takes into account health and safety regulations</li> </ul>

<b>POOR</b>	<b>CORRECT</b>	<b>VERY GOOD</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>draws inadequate conclusions or draws conclusions with teacher's help</li> <li>proposes unrealistic modifications of the experimental plan or modifications that do not have influence on the obtained results</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>draws some conclusions that are adequate to the obtained results</li> <li>draws conclusions that allow the verification of the hypothesis</li> <li>lists some measurement errors</li> <li>proposes modifications to the plan of the experiment with teacher's help</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>draws conclusions that are adequate to the obtained results</li> <li>draws conclusions that clearly verify of the hypothesis,</li> <li>lists all the measurement errors,</li> <li>proposes adequate modifications to the plan of the experiment</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>draws conclusions that are adequate to the obtained results</li> <li>draws conclusions that clearly verify of the hypothesis,</li> <li>presents a full and proper discussion of measurement errors</li> <li>proposes adequate and real modifications to the plan of the experiment</li> </ul>



### Group A

*"The greatest electromotive force can be obtained from the aluminum - copper cells at the following concentrations:  $\text{CuSO}_4$  0.5 mol/dm<sup>3</sup> and  $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3$  0.2 mol/dm<sup>3</sup>"*

### Group B

*"By constructing a zinc - copper cell, we obtain the greatest electromotive force".*

	Student 1		Student 2	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
<b>Aspects of the hypothesis evaluation:</b>				
The hypothesis is formulated in a simple and clear way - the more complicated formulation of the hypothesis, the more difficult its verification.	X		X	
The hypothesis is an adequate answer to the stated problem / research question.	X		X	
The hypothesis is at the appropriate level.	X		X	
The hypothesis is verifiable with the use of available resources / materials.	X		X	
The hypothesis is not obvious.	X		X	
The hypothesis has justification that is adequate for a particular level of education		X		X

Formulating hypothesis



**Formulation and justification of hypothesis**

### Group A

*"Laboratory equipment: multimeter, two beakers, electrolytic key, copper plate, aluminum plate, measuring cylinder.*

*Reagents:  $\text{CuSO}_4$ ,  $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ ,  $\text{NaNO}_3$*

*Plan: From the aluminum plate inserted into a beaker with a solution of  $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3$  at a concentration of  $0.2 \text{ mol/dm}^3$  a half-cell was constructed. Then, the second half-cell was constructed with a copper plate, and  $\text{CuSO}_4$  at a concentration of  $0.5 \text{ mol/dm}^3$  was poured into a beaker. The two half-cells were combined with the electrolyte key filled with a solution of  $\text{NaNO}_3$ . Multimeter was connected to the cel".*

During the experiment, the students have constructed also the second cell consisted of the same half-cells as above but the concentration of :  $\text{CuSO}_4$  was changed from 0.5 to  $0.25 \text{ mol/dm}^3$ .

<b>Group</b>	<b>POOR</b>	<b>CORRECT</b>	<b>VERY GOOD</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
A	?		?	?
B	?		?	?

POOR	CORRECT	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT
<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>partly selects reagents and laboratory equipment with the help of a teacher.</li> <li>develops experimental method that does not take into account dependent or independent variable or does not develop any method</li> <li>presents incomplete or inadequate sequence of causes and effects</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>selects reagents and laboratory equipment inadequately or with the help of a teacher</li> <li>develops experimental method that takes into account dependent and independent variable</li> <li>presents incomplete sequence of causes and effects</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>correctly selects reagents and laboratory equipment</li> <li>develops experimental method that takes into account dependent and independent variable and some control variables</li> <li>presents logical but incomplete sequence of causes and effects</li> </ul>	<p>Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>correctly selects reagents and laboratory equipment</li> <li>develops experimental method that takes into account all variables</li> <li>presents complete sequence of causes and effects that takes into account all experimental conditions.</li> <li>takes into account health and safety regulations</li> </ul>

Group B:

„To achieve the greatest EMF, metals with the highest possible difference in their potentials should be selected, for example forming the zinc-copper cell:



To obtain even greater cell EMF, one can construct an aluminum-silver cell:



The concentrations of solutions can also be changed in order to obtain even greater electromotive force”

Group	POOR	CORRECT	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT
A	X			
B	X			

### CHANGES

- Conclusions and evaluation



- Conclusion
- Verify the hypothesis
- Empirical measurement errors
- any amendments / changes.

## How to correct assessment of students?

- Discussion with students about criteria.
- Focus on assessment less skills.
- Creates well-developed rubrics.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION