



Instruction sheet



Carbon rod writing

CAUTION: wear gloves for this experiment

- 1) Use a shallow plastic dish to soak filter paper in potassium iodide solution.
- 2) Using metal tongs, carefully lift the wet filter paper out of the solution and place the wet filter paper on a plastic sheet. Tilt the plastic sheet/filter paper over the dish to allow excess liquid to drain off.
- 3) Connect the outer edge of the paper to the negative terminal of a 12V DC power supply. Connect the positive terminal to a carbon electrode.
- 4) Switch on the power supply and use the carbon electrode to "write" on the paper.
- 5) Try 'erasing' the writing by reversing the electrode polarities and tracing over the lines drawn earlier.

