

# More Iodine experiments

## ***A) Disappearing messages***

### ***What is happening?***

The message in iodine can be seen because iodine is coloured. The drawing/writings disappears after colouring with ascorbic acid.

### ***Why does it work?***

Ascorbic acid gives one of its electrons to each atom of iodine in the solution, which changes it from iodine to colourless iodide.

## ***B) Fingerprinting***

### ***What is happening?***

Your fingerprint appears on the paper strip a few moments after it is placed in the Schott bottle containing iodine.

### ***Why does it work?***

At room temperature, iodine sublimates, as some iodine moves between its solid phase directly to the gas phase.

When your finger is pressed down onto the paper, oils from the skin are transferred to the paper. These oils then react with the iodine vapor, producing a brown color that traces the fingerprint.