Teachers Answers to
Electrolysis

Closure Answers for Part I

1. Have students observe and write down what they saw.
2. It may be more useful to the astronauts if an electrolyte is added to the water.

Data Analysis

When an electrolyte is added to water, it can conduct electricity. When electricity flows, chemical changes occur. In the example of the salt, the positive electrode, the anode, pulls the electrons from the chloride. This is called oxidation.

The negative electrode, the cathode, attracts the positively charged sodium to the negatively charged electron. (This is called reduction).

In affect, it splits the salt into its original elements Na and Cl.

Closure Answers for Part 2

Have students explore different electrolytes. Are they all liquid? (No, there are some solid electrolytes). See what students can find out.