

## Electrolytic Cells

**YOYO:** Compare and contrast the two images below. Note visible similarities and differences.

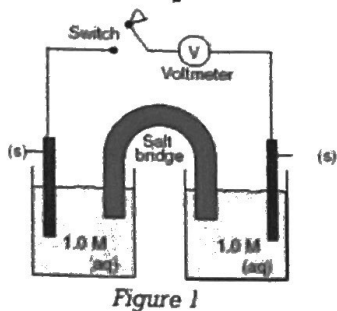


Figure 1

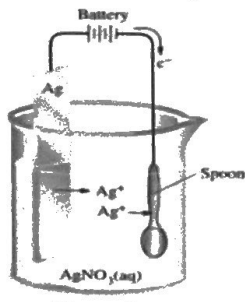


Figure 2

Similarities	Differences

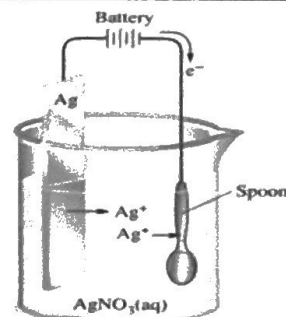
### Electrolytic Cell

- Reaction cannot occur spontaneously, so electricity is used to force the reaction to occur. In other words, electrical energy is converted to chemical energy (opposite of voltaic cell)
- When electricity is used to force a chemical reaction to occur, the process is called electrolysis

Electrolytic Cell Cathode	Electrolytic Cell Anode
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where <u>electrons</u> are <u>sent</u></li> <li>- The <u>negative</u> electrode (opposite of voltaic)</li> <li>- Electrode where <u>reduction</u> occurs (red cat)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where <u>electrons</u> are <u>drawn away from</u></li> <li>- The <u>positive</u> electrode (opposite of voltaic)</li> <li>- Electrode when <u>oxidation</u> occurs (an ox)</li> </ul>

### Electrolytic Cells: Uses

- To obtain pure elements such as sodium and chlorine by the electrolysis of molten salts.
  - Ex:  $2 \text{NaCl}(l) \rightarrow 2\text{Na}(s) + \text{Cl}_2(g)$
- To electroplate metals onto a surface. The material to be plated with a metal is the cathode. The anode is made of the metal used for the plating.



### Compare and Contrast

	Galvanic/Voltaic Cell	Electrolytic Cell
Flow of e <sup>-</sup> (Spontaneous or Forced)	<u>Spontaneous</u>	<u>forced</u>
(+) Electrode	<u>cathode</u>	<u>anode</u>
(-) Electrode	<u>anode</u>	<u>Cathode</u>
Direction of e <sup>-</sup> Flow	<u>anode to cathode</u>	<u>anode to cathode</u>
Reduction Half Cell	<u>cathode</u>	<u>Cathode</u>
Oxidation Half Cell	<u>anode</u>	<u>anode</u>