



Minerals, elements and the Earth's crust



Mineral name	Chemical formula	How many atoms of each element are present in the formula	Useful element	Uses of this element
Galena	PbS	Lead x 1 Sulfur x 1	Lead	Flashing (rainproof strips) on roofs, car batteries
Pyrite	FeS ₂	Iron x 1 Sulfur x 2	Sulfur (pyrite is not used as an ore of iron)	Making sulfuric acid
Chalcopyrite	CuFeS ₂	Copper x 1 Iron x 1 Sulfur x 2	Copper	Plumbing pipes and electrical wires. Coinage
Chalcocite	Cu ₂ S	Copper x 2 Sulfur x 1	Copper	Plumbing pipes and electrical wires. Coinage

This JESEI activity includes questions about the composition of minerals and ores and reinforces work on elements, compounds, symbols, and formulae. There are teacher's notes and student's notes. The activity includes two tables. One gives information about the most common elements in the Earth's crust and the other the chemical composition of some minerals. Students answer questions based upon the information in these tables. This would be a useful exercise for homework or to be used in the case of teacher absence.

Activity details available at:

<https://geohubliverpool.org.uk/jesei/minerals%20&%20elements.htm>