

## Viscosity

### Introduction

Students are provided with a set of identical tubes each containing a different liquid. Students measure the time taken for a bubble to rise through the liquid. This is used to compare the viscosity of the liquids.

### Equipment

#### Apparatus

- Eye protection if desired
- Stopwatch
- Sealed tubes of different liquids (thermometer packing tubes are ideal)

### Chemicals

Choose from:

- Water
- Cooking oil
- Washing up liquid
- Ethanol
- Shampoo or bubble bath

### Health, safety and technical notes

- Read our standard health and safety guidance here <https://rsc.li/3P15Yiq>
- Wear eye protection if desired.
- Ethanol is highly flammable, see CLEAPSS Hazcard [HC040a](https://rsc.li/3V1KMT).

### Notes

Remind students to time each liquid using a consistent method – eg measure the time from inversion until the 'bubble first hits the top'.