



Please find below the evaluation of the 2013 BESA jury regarding the entry:

Klett Publishing House, Serbia: Chemistry 7

Positive comments

- A well designed, dynamic and modern looking textbook and workbook using strong and bold colours, which make the set immediately more attractive. This is a very smart and helpful approach as it makes chemistry less abstract and difficult.
- The book's overall design, page layout and structure and the use of visuals all underpin this concept of making chemistry look interesting and fun, which is very appropriate for this age category – 13 year old pupils.
- Good layout of the contents page – clear and clean and easy to go through – with five main units plus a small vocabulary and an index.
- The structure of the book is very well explained, using simple and clear explanations for each part
- Each unit starts with an introductory double page – keeping the text to a minimum, yet with good questions to raise pupils' interest.
- Each chapter starts with a motivating intro in the form of cartoon-like drawings with real life settings in order to introduce key concepts in a very pupil-friendly way.
- There are many examples, exercises, experiments and other activities to assist in acquiring new knowledge and skills.
- Each chapter concludes with questions for self-assessment – *Think and explain*.
- The main cartoon characters reflect a good gender balance – female and male scientists and a girl and a boy.
- The exercise book is equally impressive – using the same concept as in the textbook, including a well-designed Table of Contents, and a guide explaining the structure.
- There are many practical laboratory experiments included. The workbook starts with a set of useful rules - how to behave in the laboratory, brief summary of first aid steps, a list of pictograms (with explanations) for different types of chemicals, and an introduction of materials used in the lab (with photos). This is not often seen in chemistry books and is a positive addition.
- There are numerous tasks and exercises for individual work and group work.
- References to a healthy life style, nutrition, environmental issues, and ecology are very well made. These help pupils to become conscious about many issues of living in the 21st century and hopefully also encourage better lifestyle choices.
- Throughout the set the positive message that chemistry is fun and important is clearly made.
- The index and definitions of concepts are clear and helpful and appropriate for the target group.

Suggestions for improvements

- The set does not provide specific activities which encourage differentiated learning.
- Some pages are crowded with insufficient margins

On behalf of the BESA 2013 jury: Preben Späth (Chairman of the jury)