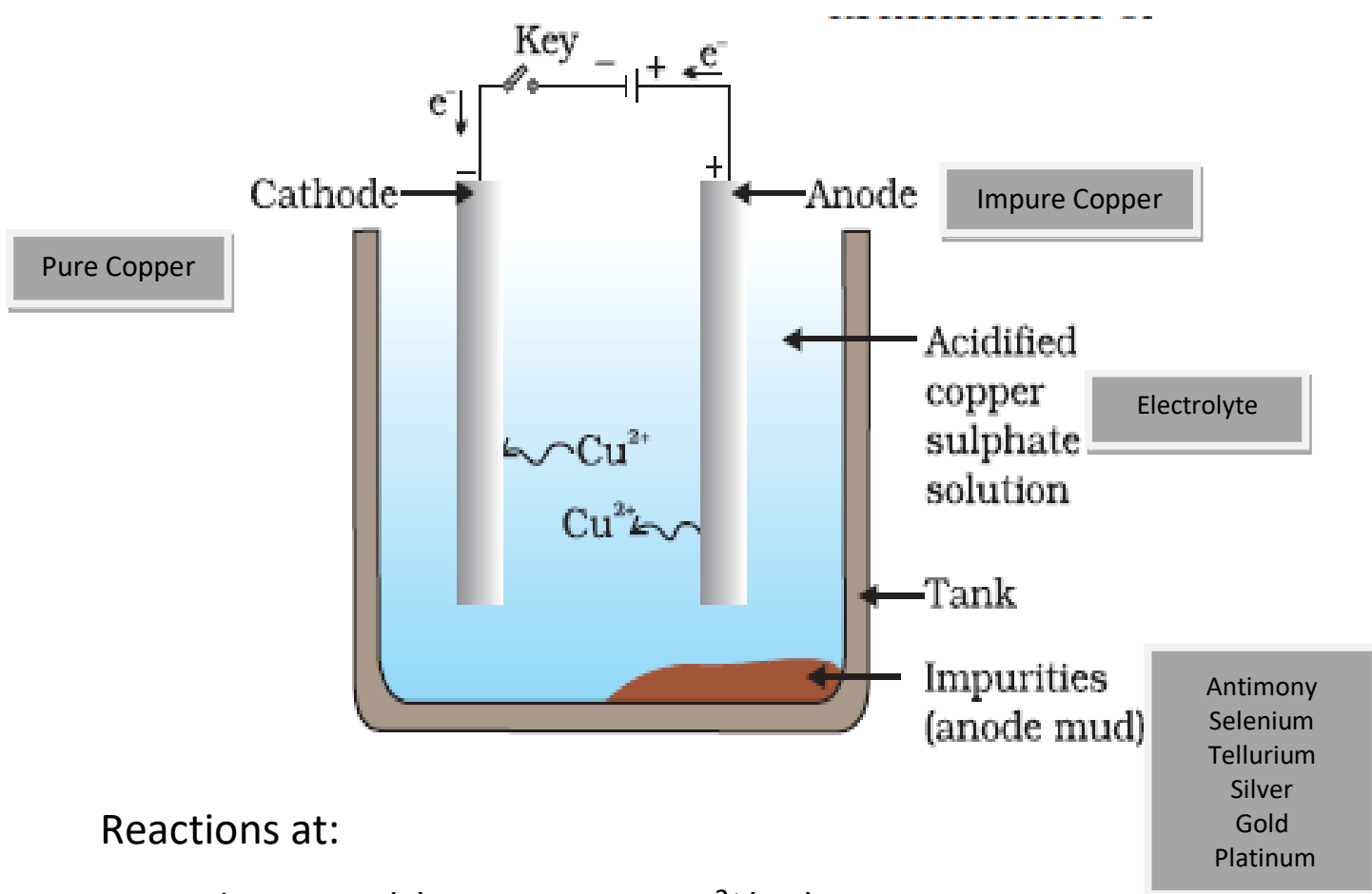
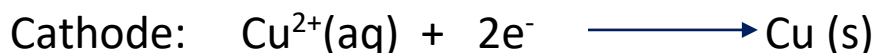


ELECTROLYTIC REFINING

The process of electrolytic refining is used to purify impure metals. In this process, the impure metal is made anode and a thin strip of pure metal is made cathode. A solution of the salt of the metal, which is to be refined is used as an electrolyte. On passing the current through the electrolyte, the metal ions from the anode migrate into the solution of electrolyte and an equivalent amount of metal ion migrates from the solution of electrolyte deposits on the cathode. The soluble impurities go into the solution. The insoluble impurities settle down at the bottom as a mud which is known as anode mud.



Reactions at:



Net Result

Transfer of copper in pure form from the anode to cathode so pure copper deposited on the cathode.

Picture source: NCERT.Science textbook for Class X.New Delhi