Creativity and Bowen’s Reaction Series
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Does writing poetry about difficult concepts enhance the student’s comprehension?

Purpose: To see if writing a poem about Bowen’s Reaction Series would help the students better understand the concept. We also tried to establish correlations between self-assessments of creativity, enjoyment of the exercise, and overall achievement of comprehension.

Bowen’s minerals
Stable based on temp/pressure
Felsic and Mafic

From high to low temperature, always know That mafic to felsic is the way to go.

Olivine did form
When temperatures were warm
And does not stand up well
To the water that, from the skies, fell.

Silica free is mafic’s glee
While felsic may contain NA

Observations: Those who consider themselves creative had an easier time writing the poetry. Many of those students said they had a better understanding of Bowen’s Reaction Series after they wrote the poem.

Those who felt creatively inept, struggled writing the poems and subsequently felt that the exercise did not benefit them.

Conclusion - Creative exercises aid in the comprehension of geological concepts.