

Formal Lab Write-Up Format

Animal Science

- **Overall Organization and Neatness of the Report:**
 - Is the report orderly, neat and concise?
 - Was the proper format used?
 - Type and use proper grammar.

- **Introduction/Objective: 5 pts**
 - This is a paragraph that discusses background information and the purpose of the lab. DO NOT simply copy the information on your lab instruction sheet. Include in this section any knowledge or observations made prior to beginning the experiment. This should be relevant information to your topic and connected to the question you will be asking.
 - Write the question that is relevant to the objective. This must be a testable question.
 - Include your hypothesis. REMEMBER: A hypothesis is written in the form of a statement that starts with “If ... and... then...” It should attempt to answer the problem statement above.
 - State what you think is going to happen, then a brief description of the experiment, followed by an **explanation** of why you think this will happen.

- **Procedures: 5 pts**
 - What steps did you use in the lab activity?
 - Write the steps you do, in a numbered list, to solve your problem. It should be specific enough that anyone in the class could follow the steps and repeat the same lab/activity successfully.
 - Give any important safety information and include the materials used.

- **Data/Observations: 10 pts**
 - This would be written observations from the actual lab or recorded measured values on a data table that is made in class or given out.
 - Are the observations you witnessed described? Qualitative as well as quantitative? Are data (i.e. numbers and collected information) for this lab listed neatly and completely in a data chart or tables?
 - This should include tables, graphs, and/or pictures that are appropriate to answering the question which will aid in solving the problem. Be sure that your graphs, tables, figures, or diagrams are neatly, completely and properly labeled with a complete title.
 - This section contains the answers to the lab questions. Each question should be numbered and answered in complete sentences; restate the question in your answer, or write the question and then the answer.

➤ **Conclusion/Discussion: 10 pts**

- This is a very important section of the lab!
- This must be done in complete sentences and in paragraph form. You will need to write about:
 1. What happened in the lab?
 - Was your hypothesis right or wrong?
 2. What did you learn?
 3. What errors might have been made, and how could that be fixed?
 4. What are the real life applications, other than the obvious science answers?
 5. What did you like/dislike about this lab?
- Explain how the lab observations and results brought the concepts together. What can you claim from your results and what evidence leads you to make your claim?
- This is also the place to mention any unanswered questions or any errors that occurred during the lab. How would you do it differently next time?