Lab Report Rubric

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Points
	Part 1: Purpose	
Title	Should reflect the purpose of the lab	2
Problem	What do you want to learn? What exactly are you trying to find out? What do you want answered or solved? Can be written as a question or a statement:	2
	Question example: What is the effect of fertilizer on plants Statement example: To study the effect of fertilizer on plants.	
Research	Research prior to experimentation. Two or more definitions or sentences related to the experiment.	2
Hypothesis	An educated guess/logical prediction written in a complete sentence. Must be testable and supported by scientific thought. Avoid I, you, my, etc (do not say "I think")	3
	If/Then/Because statement relating to the variables If (Independent Variable), then (Dependent Variable) because (why) If (this is done), then (this will happen) because (why)	
	If a bowling ball and a feather are dropped from the same height, then they will hit the bottom at the same time, because the acceleration of the two objects is the same.	
Variables	Identify the Independent Variable (manipulated/changed/tested) and Dependent Variable (responding/measured) Include units of measurement.	2
	Part 2: Materials	
Materials	List (no full sentences in this part) ALL of the materials including equipment used to perform the experiment. Include units and quantities whenever possible. Use Bullets, NOT Numbers. Be Specific!	5
	Part 3: Procedure	
Safety	List the main safety precautions to be taken during the lab.	2
Procedure	A numbered set of instructions, in your own words, to successfully complete the experiment. Step-by-step! Organized! Numbered! Can have Sections! Written in third person (no pronouns) A shopping list.	5

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	Part 4: Data Collection	
Quantitative	Data Collection Chart: Determine how you will collect your measurable data for your	10
Data	experiment before beginning.	
	Title: Descriptive of data being collected	
	Columns: Should follow procedure. Data is aligned correctly with lines	
	separating. Headings: Each column should have a heading which describes the type of	
	data found in the column and the units of measurement of data found in that	
	column	
	Data is correctly and completely entered during the experiment. Frequency of	
	measurement and numbers of times trials are repeated are appropriate. Will you	
	include a mean/average column? Measurements must be in METRIC	
Qualitative	Minimum of two Qualitative Descriptions (data gained with senses, observations,	4
Data	non-measured) in complete sentences	
Sketch	Title: Name given, underlined and all words capitalized. Do not use "sketch" in the	3
	title. You can use "Experiment Set-Up" or "Experiment Design".	
	View: top, side, back view is stated	
	Scale (size): this is listed by the title. For example: 10x	
	Drawing: Firm lines give relevant detail. Shading or coloring adds features.	
	Labeling: Label at least three parts.	
	Part 5: Data Analysis	
Results	Graph: Data from experiment is graphed	15
	Correct graph type is presented (bar, line, circle)	
	Title reflects both independent (changed/tested) and dependent variables (measured)	
	X axis is labeled (independent variable) with name and units	
	Y axis is labeled (dependent variable) with name and units	
	Intervals for both axes are appropriately set up; Data is accurately plotted.	
	Appearance is neat and easily readable. Makes use of available space. Ruler is	
	used. Legend is included if there is more than one set of data.	
	Part 6: Conclusion	
Conclusion	Answer the following questions in paragraph form:	
	1. Restate the original hypothesis, discuss whether it was supported or rejected	5
	2. Analyze the data. What did you learn from this lab? Explain in detail!	5
	3. Did the lab go as planned? Were there any unplanned variables? (Not just Yes or No)	5
	4. What other similar experiment(s) can be performed by changing a variable? Is there an	5
	4. What other similar experiment(s) can be performed by changing a variable? Is there an extension of the experiment that would provide more information?	5
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