Formal Lab Report Criteria

Do's

1. Do make the ABSTRACT a single paragraph, no indent, and within one page.
2. Do make discussions in the BODY to the point and as detailed as possible, include data, math, psuedo-code, flowcharts, and diagrams where apropriate.
3. Do indent the BODY, ANALYSIS, and CONCLUSION.
4. Do include snapshots of running code in the BODY, make these snapshots highly clear and readable.
5. Do align Software/Assembly code columns, under SOFTWARE heading for readability.
6. Do keep comments in the comments column even if you have to wrap around to the next line in the comment column.
7. Do keep font/style/size consistent for all text except the software/code listings may be different.
8. Do use the given font/style/size in the lab report template.
9. Do use single space for all text.
10. Do turn off italics - you can emphasize a line with italics or the title of a reference.
11. Do use third-person passive voice for all writings.
12. **Do focus strictly on the hardware, software, procedures, data, results, analysis, conclusions when writing the report, and in your own words**.
13. Do make the content of your report have value or usefulness to the reader.
14. Do place each HEADING at the top of a new page.
15. Do list your original software/firmware under SOFTWARE heading.
16. Do cite other authors' work that your have referenced.
17. Do make your writing lean and to the point but with as much useful information as possible.
18. Do indent all paragraphs in the report except for the ABSTRACT paragraph.

Dont's

1. Don't include snapshots of code, always include code as typed text.
2. Don't include my template instructions in your submitted report.
3. Don't discuss references in the reference section simply list them correctly.
4. Don't include blank pages in the report.
5. Don't list any code/software that contain nothing from you, unless instructed to do so.
6. Don't include headers nor footers nor watermarks in the pages of your report.
7. Don't use pronouns.
8. Don't include emotion in your writings.
9. Don't refer to people/teams/groups nor places/institutions in any way.
10. Don't use words like teach, taught, learn, learned nor any words that are already understood to be the case. This is wrong language.
11. Don't refer to the lab#.pdf document itself in any way, wrong language.
12. Don't plagiarize.
13. Don't indent the ABSTRACT paragraph.
14. Don't refer to the lab#.pdf document **itself** in any way. Such as in "The lab requests the following question to be answered..." This is the wrong type of language.

About the language of the report:
Just as in speaking, using the correct language is a very important part of writing.
A formal lab report should not contain the same type of language found in a personal letter to someone you know, nor a bibliography, nor a novel, nor a newspaper, etc.... Simply discuss the facts needed to answer the green highlighted text in each lab#.pdf document plus as much supporting technical detail that YOU can include. Use a dry, third-person, passive language that excites the target audience who can benefit from the information. See example below.

Example Lab 1

ABSTRACT

AVR assembly language programming is examined and evaluated. Moreover, the Atmel 328P(B) MCU is experimented with under laboratory conditions using AVR assembly language. Atmel Studio 7 IDE for Windows along with the ICE programmer/debugger and the 328P(B) Xplained development board are all used together to evaluate the MCU's core Programming Model including its registers, instruction set, addressing modes, and its various types of internal memory. Given test code is entered into the Atmel Studio 7 IDE, the code is built and then programmed into the 328P(B). Studio 7 debugging tools are employed to observe the operation of each line of assembly code during execution within the target hardware. Results and data are recorded and an analysis is performed. The experimental observations and analysis lead to conclusions about the AVR assembly language and the 328P(B) MCU which concur with Atmel documentation. From the conclusions, a delay subroutine is successfully engineered and implemented to periodically flash an LCD backlight in one second intervals.

Note: Use this same type of language for all of the report.

IMPORTANT: Submit your report via Blackboard under Assignments as a .pdf file. My report would be named RockeyL1.pdf so use the same naming convention for yours. Also, proof read your .pdf report before submitting. Follow the reportdosanddonts document.

Eugene.