Report Rubric

Table 1:

Section	50-40 pts	40-30 pts	30-20 pts	20-0 pts
Introduction Answers the question "What is this lab about?"	• Answers the question “what is this lab about?” sufficiently that a person who did not perform the lab would understand • Gives enough background so that the lab report makes sense as a stand-alone document • Tells the reader what your expected outcome is based on theory.	• Answers the question “what is this lab about?” sufficiently that a person who was part of your lab group would understand • Gives enough background so that the lab report makes sense to someone who knows the lab topic well	• Mentions what the lab is about • Gives some background	• It is difficult to tell from the introduction what the lab is about • Little or no background provided
Procedure Answers the question "what did you do?"	• This section answers the question “what did you do?” sufficiently so a non-expert can understand what was done. • Describe the entire procedure, especially indicate any deviations from your plan and explain why those deviations were necessary.	• This section answers the question “what did you do?” sufficiently so your lab partner could understand what was done. • Tells where you deviated from the plan	• Major points of the procedure are listed	• It is difficult to tell what you did from your description

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Table 1: (Continued)

Section	50-40 pts	40-30 pts	30-20 pts	20-0 pts
Data Answers the question "what did you measure"	• Each measured value is given with units • Each value is given with a good estimate of uncertainty • Only measured values that are needed are given • The data is presented in a way that is easy for the reader to find and read. (e.g. label graphs and table columns)	• Each measured value is given with units • Each value is given with an estimate of uncertainty • Extra values that were not needed are given	• measured values are given	• It is not clear what you measured
Analysis Answers the question "how did I get from my data to my results?"	• It is clear how you got from your measured values to your results • Major equations are given and discussed. • The method of determining uncertainties is discussed	• It is possible to tell how you got from your measured values to your results • Major equations are given • The method of determining uncertainties is discussed	• It is possible to tell how you got from your measured values to your results • Major equations are given • Method of determining uncertainty is not discussed	• It is not possible to tell how you got from your measured values to your results • Major equations are missing • Method of determining uncertainty is not discussed
Results Gives the results of your analysis	• There is a clear, understandable answer to the question the lab asks. For example, if I ask you how fast a car is going, the result would be a calculated speed, with its calculated uncertainty and units. • Report percent error or percent difference • Report fractional uncertainty	• There is a an answer to the question the lab asks with uncertainty and units • Report percent error • Report fractional uncertainty	• There is a an answer to the question the lab asks • uncertainty and units are missing • Percent error or fractional uncertainty is missing	• There is no clear answer to the question the lab asks • Percent error or fractional uncertainty is missing

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Table 1: (Continued)

Section	50-40 pts	40-30 pts	30-20 pts	20-0 pts
Conclusion Answers the question "did the experiment show what was intended?"	• There is a clear discussion of whether the experiment was supported or falsified the theory. • This discussion includes a comparison of the percent error and fractional uncertainty • If there were difficulties, they are discussed here • There is a statement of what you learned from this experiment. Note any problems and how you would resolve them if you were to redo this experiment.	• There is a general discussion of accuracy (often with percent errors quoted) • There is some mention of whether the predictive theory is supported • Problems are noted and how you would resolve them if you were to redo this experiment is discussed.	• There is no comparison of the percent error and fractional uncertainty • There is a statement of what you learned from this experiment.	• There is no outcome of the accuracy of the experiment • There is no comparison of fractional uncertainty and percent error • There is no clear conclusion about the predictive theory • There is little mention of what was learned