

HHSS Junior Science Laboratory Report Outline



Cover Page:

1. *Descriptive Title* of your laboratory investigation
2. Course code and section
3. Student's full name
4. Teacher's name (spelled correctly!)
5. Experiment Date
6. Due date

Purpose:

- A concise statement of the problem that is being investigated must be included.

Hypothesis:

- The hypothesis is *clearly stated and explained*. It predicts the cause and effect between the independent/dependant variables. It is in the IF.....THEN.....BECAUSE format.

Materials:

- This is a point-form list of the various resources you used to complete your investigation.
- Quantities should be included whenever possible (numbers/sizes/amounts).
- Safety equipment and/or WHMIS precautions should be included as necessary.

Procedure:

- This is a summary of what was done during the investigation.
- The summary should be clear and to the point.
- Procedure should be organized in **numbered steps**, **written in the past tense, in a formal voice (past tense, impersonal)** Include a titled, labelled, well-organized, meaningful diagram *when appropriate*. It should include a descriptive title beginning with Figure 1.

Results/Analysis:

- This section includes all the qualitative and quantitative data that you collect from the lab
- This information can frequently be expressed in chart form.
- Diagrams/illustrations/graphs/tables must include **descriptive titles** that are numbered accordingly
- Tables must fit entirely on one page, not across two pages.
- All observations will be made with an appropriate degree of precision.
- This section may include:
 1. Data Charts
 2. Calculations (sample calculations)
 3. Graphs
 4. Qualitative observations
- Include any sources of error for the investigation, and how it affected the results. You need to explain how and why the procedure should be changed to make the investigation more accurate. Anything the experimenter can reasonably control CANNOT be used as a source of error.

Conclusion:

- **Summarize** the experiment in paragraph form, and interpret the results. Include a statement that relates your results to the purpose of the lab.
- The hypothesis should be evaluated. It should include whether the hypothesis is supported or not by using quantitative references when possible.

General Guidelines for Writing Laboratory Reports

- Always write in the third person, formal. That is, avoid the use of "I", "We", "You", "He", "She", "My", "Us", or "They". For example, instead of writing: "***We heated the water using a Bunsen burner.***" write: "***The water was heated using a Bunsen burner***"
- Always write in complete sentences. You may use point form, phrases or single words when writing in charts/tables/diagrams.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">□ All headings and subtitles - bold text□ Paragraphs will be indented.□ Sections will follow the order indicated above.□ Values/units must be written properly (10 g not 10g) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">□ Proofread to eliminate spelling/grammatical errors.□ Correct units are present where appropriate.□ Formal reports will be word processed in a 12 point, Times New Roman font. |
|---|---|

