

Name: _____ Lab time and instructor: _____

Grade Sheet for Formal Lab Reports - Biology 280

Category		comments
“Substance¹”		
Abstract <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate summarization of hypotheses, results, and interpretation to tell the reader what the questions were, how they were answered, and what the findings were? 		
Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate background given to place the question(s) being addressed into the larger context of the current state of knowledge in the field? • hypotheses clearly stated, and clearly directed at the question(s) of interest? 		
Materials and Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quality & "ambitiousness" of experimental design • adequate detail given to repeat the study, without simply listing steps followed? 		
Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accuracy/quality of data • proper “data reduction” to summary forms (e.g., tables & graphs)? • proper statistical or other data analyses? • clear verbal description of the results? 		
Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interpretation of results relative to original hypotheses & questions? • comparison of results to those of other studies (literature, etc.)? • clear understanding of biol. phenomena underlying results? • discussion of next steps to take to refine answers, suggestion of next study, etc? 		
“Style²”		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consistency with assigned format • grammar, spelling, clarity, & “neatness” 		
Total³		

¹ The substantive content of the paper. Was the study well-designed and executed? Data analyzed and interpreted correctly? Various kinds of information presented in the proper sections? Does the writer understand key biological concepts? 80 points possible.

² Organization and format of the paper. Is the paper written according to the assigned format? Is it well-written in the grammatical sense? Is it neat? Max 20 points.

³ Total possible = 100