

Central High School Science Department

Pre-Thinking sheet for Writing a Formal Lab Report

Use this sheet to organize your thoughts and ensure you have all the necessary parts of a complete lab report.

Descriptive Title: _____

Examples:

- "Effects of _____ on _____"
- "Investigating _____"
- "Determining the _____ by _____"

Introduction

What were you looking for in the experiment? What was the purpose?

What did you have to know before you did the lab?

What was your hypothesis and reason for this prediction?

Methodology/Procedures

This section should include independent, dependent, and controlled variables and an overview of the procedures you followed

Data

Should be computer generated from your observed results

List what charts and/or graphs should be included

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List any statistical data or calculations to be included (percent error, standard deviation, etc.)

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Conclusion

What trends and patterns did you find?

Was your hypothesis correct? Why or why not?

What were possible sources of error and how could you improve the lab?

What questions do you still have?

Abstract

This portion will actually go before your introduction but should provide a clear and specific summary of your entire lab. Summarize all of the above parts.

Did you use any additional sources? (Literature Citation)

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