

Your lab report should be written using the following format: (*Be sure to left align, CAPITALIZE & underline headings. Use 1-inch margins and 12 pt. font*)

## **LAB REPORT TITLE**

(The title should indicate clearly & concisely the subject and scope of the report)

*Your Name*

*Date of Lab Activity*

### **PURPOSE:**

This is the main question that you have and should be stated in the form of a question (Ex. Which type of paper towel is more absorbent: expensive or cheap paper towels?)

### **INTRODUCTION:**

The introduction should give **background information** about the experiment. This section will be at least two paragraphs in length.

### **HYPOTHESIS:**

The hypothesis should be a single statement telling the exact thing you are trying to prove in your experiment. Never write this statement using "first person". Make sure this is written using the following format: If... then... because...

### **MATERIALS:**

This section should be written in paragraph form and name all of the materials and equipment used. Be sure to include specific amounts and concentrations of chemicals used.

### **METHODS:**

This section includes step-by-step instructions, in sequential order (1., 2., etc.) explaining the procedures used. The description should be so thorough that someone else could use your listed materials and procedures to conduct the same experiment and get the same results.

### **RESULTS:**

All data should be collected and organized in a logical order. Results should be illustrated as **charts, tables, graphs, &/or diagrams**. All graphs should include a title, the independent variable labeled on the horizontal axis, and the dependent variable labeled on the vertical axis. *All lab questions and answers should also be included with this section.* (Number and underline the questions & then write the answers)

### **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:**

Discussion is the most important part of your report. Here, you show that you understand the experiment beyond the simple level of completing it.!! This is where you give a detailed account of what happened in the experiment. Explain all observations and results in your experiment. Analyze and interpret why these results were obtained. Be sure to tell the significance or meaning of the results. **Restate** the original hypothesis and explain whether the experiment succeeded. If the hypothesis was not correct, you should analyze why the results were not as predicted. Explain experimental errors that appear in the results. Your discussion should include an **ERROR ANALYSIS** which explains any important factors that you think may have actually affected your results.