Lab Report Guidelines

Header Information & Format

* Name
* Course Name
* Lab Partner’s Name
* Date lab was completed
* Title of Lab
* Each section of the lab report needs to be clearly labeled with a subheading.
* Font: Times New Roman (10 point)
* Report needs to be double-spaced.

Introduction

The purpose of the introduction is to give background information and theoretical information for the experiment to explain how these concepts are applicable to the experiment. The introduction also establishes the purpose and what we are trying to determine or test in the lab.

* Gives all relevant background information about the experiment.
* Explains all concepts in a logical manner.
* Lab manual may be used as a source but you should keep directly quoting the lab manual to a minimum.
* The purpose should be specific to the experiment and clearly stated in the introduction.
* Your claim/hypothesis for the experiment should be clearly stated and an explanation of how your prediction links to the experiment should be included. Remember your claim or hypothesis is what we were predicting in the lab.
* Include any relevant equations or formulas used in the experiment, making sure to clearly define all variables and explain them thoroughly.

Materials & Procedure

The methods section should summarize the procedure that was followed in the lab that led to the data collection. You should not rewrite the procedure exactly but summarize the procedure steps in a logical and concise manner.

Exception: If you are assigned to design your own procedure for a lab, than the entire procedure you designed and followed in the lab should be typed in its exact manner.