

HOW TO WRITE A LABORATORY REPORT

TITLE

PROBLEM: What question are you trying to answer? BE VERY SPECIFIC.

HYPOTHESIS: What do you think the answer is? Explain what experiences, observations, or other information you are basing your hypothesis on.

MATERIALS: List the equipment you will need to do the experiment.

PROCEDURE: Write the steps that you need to follow to perform the experiment. Make sure that someone else could understand and follow your procedures. Explain in detail. Do this in a numerical step by step list.

DATA: Make a table(s) in which you will write down your results. Many times this information is numeric. Use a graph(s) to make your data more understandable.

OBSERVATIONS: Describe what happened. Use all of your senses and necessary instruments to make your observations. Do not give meaning to or try to explain what happened. Observations are a type of data.

DISCUSSION: Try to explain the reason things happened the way they did. Write down some other experiments that you could do to better understand the results of this experiment. How can you change this experiment so that it works better?

CONCLUSION: Answer the question you wrote in the PROBLEM statement.

