Research Paper Rubric

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Criteria	Ratings					Pts
Title	3.6 pts — Title clearly identifies the main question solved.	3.0 pts — Title identifies the project.	2.5 pts — Title does not identify work.	2.0 pts — Title missing		3.6 pts
Abstract	3.6 pts — Abstract addresses all sections of the paper and is a coherent whole that can be understood.	3.0 pts — Abstract does not address all sections of the report.	2.5 pts — Abstract is only a listing of facts.	2.0 pts — Abstract missing		3.6 pts
Intro: Background	2.8 pts — Presents a valid scenario/context under which the lab experiments would be performed as a larger research project. Information and previous work is given in a concise manner than directly leads into the question(s) being addressed and the purpose of the research.	2.4 pts — Gives a listing of the facts and/or previous work, but does not tie them together clearly, and/or does not show how they lead to the purpose of the present work and the questions being addressed.	2.0 pts — Gives very little background or information.	1.5 pts — Does not include background or previous work.		2.8 pts
Intro: Aim/Hypothesis	2.8 pts — A clear explanation of purpose/aim is provided; educates by providing context.	2.4 pts — Give a correct purpose with some framework.	2.0 pts — Declares a purpose that is correct.	1.5 pts — Purpose is incorrect or missing.		2.8 pts
Material & Methods	4.0 pts — Discrete subsections for protocols given; enough information given to perform experiment; extraneous information is not given.	3.4 pts — Does not meet one of the three criteria.	2.8 pts — Does not meet two of the three criteria.	2.2 pts — Does not meet any criteria.		4.0 pts
Results: Figures/Graphs	2.8 pts — The figures contain all the information needed to understand the data. All the figures flow in a clear and understandable fashion. Figures are of good quality.	2.4 pts — Does not meet one of the three criteria.	2.0 pts — Does not meet two of the three criteria.	1.5 pts — Does not meet any criteria.		2.8 pts
Results: Written Summary of Results	2.8 pts — Records observations and explains their importance. Includes formulas/calculations used to analyze data, and explains their use.	2.4 pts — Records observations and sometimes their importance. Includes formulas and calculations used to analyze data.	2.0 pts — Records some observations. Includes formulas and some calculations used to analyze data.	1.5 pts — Does not include formulas nor calculations used to analyze data. No observations noted.		2.8 pts
Discussion: Framework	2.8 pts — Restates the aim/hypothesis, supports or refutes it and explains the role of the test in making the decision.	2.4 pts — Restates the aim/hypothesis and supports or refutes it.	2.0 pts — Supports or refutes the aim/hypothesis without restating it.	1.5 pts — Does not support or refute the aim/hypothesis.		2.8 pts
Discussion: Evidence	2.8 pts — Uses data powerfully as evidence to support statements.	2.4 pts — Uses data to support statements.	2.0 pts — Refers to data in the body of the report as support.	1.5 pts — Does not use data to support arguments.		2.8 pts
Discussion: Logic	2.8 pts — Conclusions are all logically forged and defended with data.	2.4 pts — Conclusions are mostly logical and defended.	2.0 pts — The conclusions are sometimes logical and/or poorly defended.	1.5 pts — The conclusions are illogical, incorrect or not defended.		2.8 pts
Discussion: Error	2.8 pts — Identifies logical/likely sources of error and explains effect on results.	2.4 pts — Identifies logical/likely sources of error.	2.0 pts — Only suggests possibility of errors or sources or error are illogical.	1.5 pts — Does not address possibility of error.		2.8 pts
Discussion: Context	2.8 pts — The experiment is made meaningful by discussion of its scientific proposals for further investigation are made.	2.4 pts — An application or use of the work is provided; a proposal for further investigation is made.	2.0 pts — The work is generally ascribed to be useful but no rationale is provided for thinking so.	1.5 pts — No relevance is provided for the work.		2.8 pts
Microorganism Naming Conventions	1.2 pts — Naming conventions are used correctly.	1.0 pts — Only a few errors.	0.8 pts — Several errors.	0.6 pts — Very frequent naming convention errors.		1.2 pts
Clarity	1.2 pts — Article sections clearly distinct from each other and in logical order.	1.0 pts — Sections clearly labeled; not more than one category out of sequence.	0.8 pts — Sections labeled; not more than two categories out of sequence.	0.6 pts — Sections not labeled; more than two categories out of sequence.		1.2 pts
Grammar & Spelling	1.2 pts — All grammar and spelling are correct.	1.0 pts — Only a few errors.	0.8 pts — Several errors.	0.6 pts — Very frequent grammar and/or spelling errors.		1.2 pts

Total Points: 40.0