

# Advanced Biology | Preparing a Lab Report

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## 1. Abstract

### a. **All inclusive overview of your ENTIRE lab**

- i. 1 paragraph, thorough summary of your lab highlighting the main points.
- ii. Written last, appears first.

## 2. Introduction

### a. **Background Information:**

- i. Provide an overview of the topic enlighten / interest the reader
- ii. Use multiple paragraphs to separate multiple ideas.
- iii. Introduce all relevant topics of the lab. Be sure to use your research here!

### b. **Purpose**

- i. What was the goal of the lab?
- ii. Why did you run the experiment the way you did?

### c. **Hypothesis:**

- i. What results did you expect from the experiment? Why?
- ii. Your hypothesis, written in an "If ... then ... because" statement.

## 3. Procedure:

### a. **Equipment used:**

- i. Describe the equipment/tools used in your own words.
- ii. Elaborate on their purpose and function AS YOU DESCRIBE YOUR PROCEDURE

### b. **Collection of data:**

- i. Describe how the experiment was done in your own words
- ii. What did you observe, collect, measure?

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## 4. Results:

### a. Graph or table:

- i. Show if at all possible
- ii. Use Microsoft Excel to make neat data
- iii. Embed your graphs/tables inside the body of the text and reference them appropriately (Figure 1, Figure 2, etc...)

### b. Description of data:

- i. Examine your data and summarize what happened (patterns)
- ii. Do not make any conclusions/assumptions/explanations here!!

## 5. Discussion:

### a. Support of your hypothesis – REVISIT IT

- i. Was it supported?

### b. Explanation:

- i. Explain why you think you got the results you did
- ii. Relate your findings to proven science! (RESEARCH!!)

### c. Conclusion:

- i. Revisit and explain what you learned from the lab.
- ii. What ideas do you have from future experiments now that you have completed this one?

## 6. References:

- a. Include these in a works cited page at the end. Minimum of 3 (1 of which MUST be the textbook!)
- b. Use easybib.com to help with this.

## Points to remember:

- Clarity – your report should be organized and presented so the reader can understand
- Good writing – use appropriate grammar, terminology, and citations (if needed)
- Observations and interpretations – keep these clear and do not intertwine them
- Exercise good judgment – Pay attention to quality and presentation
- MLA Format