

CURE Term Paper Rubric (Scientific Journal Format)								
Criteria	Ratings						Total Points per Section	
Title	2.5 pts Title describes the experiments performed (states the independent variables explored, the dependent variables measured and/or key results)			1.25 pts Title is vague/doesn't describe the work that was performed, e.g. no mention of variables explored/measured		0 pts No Title		2.5
Abstract	5 pts Abstract includes ALL of the following: 1) The question(s) or purpose investigated (from Introduction) 2) Brief description of experimental design/methods used 3) Major findings/results that answer your question(s) 4) Brief summary of your interpretations/conclusions (from your Discussion), including any implications of your work 5) is 200-300 words in length	4 pts Abstract is missing ONE of the following: 1) The question(s) or purpose investigated (from Introduction) 2) Brief description of experimental design/methods used 3) Major findings/results that answer your question(s) 4) Brief summary of your interpretations/conclusions (from your Discussion), including any implications of your work 5) is 200-300 words in length	3 pts Abstract is missing TWO of the following: 1) The question(s) or purpose investigated (from Introduction) 2) Brief description of experimental design/methods used 3) Major findings/results that answer your question(s) 4) Brief summary of your interpretations/conclusions (from your Discussion), including any implications of your work 5) is 200-300 words in length	2 pts Abstract is missing THREE of the following: 1) The question(s) or purpose investigated (from Introduction) 2) Brief description of experimental design/methods used 3) Major findings/results that answer your question(s) 4) Brief summary of your interpretations/conclusions (from your Discussion), including any implications of your work 5) is 200-300 words in length	1 pts Abstract is missing FOUR of the following: 1) The question(s) or purpose investigated (from Introduction) 2) Brief description of experimental design/methods used 3) Major findings/results that answer your question(s) 4) Brief summary of your interpretations/conclusions (from your Discussion), including any implications of your work 5) is 200-300 words in length	0 pts Abstract is missing all 5 points, or report does not have an Abstract	5	

<p>Introduction</p>	<p>10-8 pts Introduction includes ALL of the following (award 1-2 points per requirement, depending on quality): 1) Begins by clearly identifying the subject area of interest (using keywords from Title) 2) Briefly reviews relevant primary literature to establish context 3) Clearly states the purpose and/or hypothesis that were investigated 4) Clearly states rationale for their approach to the problem studied 5) States one or more possible outcomes of their study.</p>	<p>8-6 pts Introduction is missing ONE of the following (award 1-2 points per requirement, depending on quality): 1) Begins by clearly identifying the subject area of interest (using keywords from Title) 2) Briefly reviews relevant primary literature to establish context 3) Clearly states the purpose and/or hypothesis that were investigated 4) Clearly states rationale for their approach to the problem studied 5) States one or more possible outcomes of their study.</p>	<p>6-4 pts Introduction is missing TWO of the following (award 1-2 points per requirement, depending on quality): 1) Begins by clearly identifying the subject area of interest (using keywords from Title) 2) Briefly reviews relevant primary literature to establish context 3) Clearly states the purpose and/or hypothesis that were investigated 4) Clearly states rationale for their approach to the problem studied 5) States one or more possible outcomes of their study.</p>	<p>4-2 pts Introduction is missing THREE of the following (award 1-2 points per requirement, depending on quality): 1) Begins by clearly identifying the subject area of interest (using keywords from Title) 2) Briefly reviews relevant primary literature to establish context 3) Clearly states the purpose and/or hypothesis that were investigated 4) Clearly states rationale for their approach to the problem studied 5) States one or more possible outcomes of their study.</p>	<p>2-0 pts Introduction is missing FOUR of the following (award 1-2 points per requirement, depending on quality): 1) Begins by clearly identifying the subject area of interest (using keywords from Title) 2) Briefly reviews relevant primary literature to establish context 3) Clearly states the purpose and/or hypothesis that were investigated 4) Clearly states rationale for their approach to the problem studied 5) States one or more possible outcomes of their study.</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>Materials and Methods</p>	<p>10-7 pts Materials and Methods includes ALL of the following (award 1-3 points per requirement and 1 point for writing style/conciseness/clarity): 1) Describes the controls used, treatments, variable(s) measured, controlled variables and replication 2) Procedures are described in enough detail to reproduce the experiment 3) How the data were analyzed, including a) How data was summarized, b) The graph/chart types used to analyze data and c) Any statistical tests used (with reference to the particular question they address).</p>	<p>7-4 pts Materials and Methods is missing <u>ONE</u> of the following (award 1-3 points per requirement and 1 point for writing style/conciseness/clarity): 1) Describes the controls used, treatments, variable(s) measured, controlled variables and replication 2) Procedures are described in enough detail to reproduce the experiment 3) How the data were analyzed, including a) How data was summarized, b) The graph/chart types used to analyze data and c) Any statistical tests used (with reference to the particular question they address).</p>	<p>4-0 pts Materials and Methods is missing <u>TWO</u> of the following (award 1-3 points per requirement and 1 point for writing style/conciseness/clarity): 1) Describes the controls used, treatments, variable(s) measured, controlled variables and replication 2) Procedures are described in enough detail to reproduce the experiment 3) How the data were analyzed, including a) How data was summarized, b) The graph/chart types used to analyze data and c) Any statistical tests used (with reference to the particular question they address).</p>	<p>10</p>		

Results	<p>10-1 pts Results section requirements: 1) ORGANIZATION/STYLE (4 points total): Order/sequence of key results/findings (including negative results) logically supports (or refutes) the hypothesis, or answers the question stated in the Introduction (1-2 pts). Student's writing is objective (avoids persuasive language) and is mostly written in the past tense (1-2 pts). 2) ILLUSTRATIVE MATERIALS (4 points total): Each of the 4 experiments/activities contains a relevant table or figure (2 pts). Tables and figures each have their own legend/caption (1 pt). They're also correctly labeled based on the order in which they appear and have appropriate units (1 pt). 3) RIGOR (2 points total): Quantitative language is used to report results and explain relationships in the data (i.e., how are two data sets/points similar/different, and how much are they similar/different?) (1 pt). Statistical analyses, such as parenthetical references, are used in conjunction with the results they support (1 pt).</p>	<p>1-0 pts No Results section</p>	<p>10</p>	
Discussion	<p>10-7 pts Discussion includes ALL of the following (award 1-3 points per requirement and 1 point for use of active voice with conciseness/clarity): 1) Evaluates/interprets results and discusses if they provide an answer to the hypothesis tested 2) Describes if findings agree with other studies, including a) citing crucial information in someone else's study that helps interpret their own data (or reinterpreting others' findings in light of theirs), b) discusses reasons for similarities or differences between theirs and others' findings, c) considers how the results of other studies may be combined with theirs to derive a new/better understanding of the problem 3) explains our new understanding of the problem that was investigated (given their conclusions) and briefly mentions further studies they would do to clarify their working hypotheses.</p>	<p>7-4 pts Discussion is missing <u>ONE</u> of the following (award 1-3 points per requirement and 1 point for use of active voice with conciseness/clarity): 1) Evaluates/interprets results and discusses if they provide an answer to the hypothesis tested 2) Describes if findings agree with other studies, including a) citing crucial information in someone else's study that helps interpret their own data (or reinterpreting others' findings in light of theirs), b) discusses reasons for similarities or differences between theirs and others' findings, c) considers how the results of other studies may be combined with theirs to derive a new/better understanding of the problem 3) explains our new understanding of the problem that was investigated (given their conclusions) and briefly mentions further studies they would do to clarify their working hypotheses.</p>	<p>4-0 pts Discussion is missing <u>TWO</u> of the following (award 1-3 points per requirement and 1 point for use of active voice with conciseness/clarity): 1) Evaluates/interprets results and discusses if they provide an answer to the hypothesis tested 2) Describes if findings agree with other studies, including a) citing crucial information in someone else's study that helps interpret their own data (or reinterpreting others' findings in light of theirs), b) discusses reasons for similarities or differences between theirs and others' findings, c) considers how the results of other studies may be combined with theirs to derive a new/better understanding of the problem 3) explains our new understanding of the problem that was investigated (given their conclusions) and briefly mentions further studies they would do to clarify their working hypotheses.</p>	<p>10</p>
Literature Cited	<p>2.5 pts All sources (references) are accurately cited and documented in the desired format.</p>	<p>1.25 pts At least half of all references are not cited or accurately documented, or are not in the desired format</p>	<p>0 pts More than half of all references are not cited or accurately documented, or are not in the desired format</p>	<p>2.5</p>
Total Points:				50