**Formal Lab Report for Science Classes**

Lab Name Your Name

Class

Date

**Introduction**

This is a brief explanation and overview of the lab and what the purpose of the lab is. Some background information may be appropriate here. For example, if the lab is on a specific heat calculation, the student should describe what specific heat is and what it is used for in science.

**Materials**

List the materials needed in the lab List them in columns

Include the number of each item needed

**Method**

1. This is the procedure that was followed to complete the experiment.
2. Steps should be numbered.
3. Steps should be written in action statement format…verb beginning statement.

**Results**

Data tables and graphs need to be placed here. Each data table or graph must have a title. It can be a numbered title. I recommend that if the first table in a lab done from chapter 14 is given, the title should be Table 14.1.

When making tables, use excel and import it into the word document. Use the colored or fill options to darken the titles of the rows and columns. The neater it is, the more professional it appears and the better format grade it will receive.

When making graphs, use the excel file and graph it then import into word as well.

**Calculations**

Write a brief explanation for a calculation, identify the formula and show how to work a problem out. If you did the calculation 6 times, only include one sample. However, every type of calculation needs to be represented.

*For example :*

*The formula v = d/t is used to determine the speed of an object. The symbol d = distance in meters and the t represents time in seconds or hours typically.*

*v= d/t*

*v = 120 m / 10s*

*v = 12 m/s*

*\*\*When finding Percent Error use the following guideline equations*

*Difference between your reading and actual reading / actual reading X 100 = Percent Error*

**Discussion**

This is an explanation of the results in the experiment. The student needs to explain what was expected to happen, what actually did happen and why were these the same or not. Give reasonable explanations illustrating the differences and support with data from your experiment. Identify potential errors and how to make corrections. This is the paragraph or several that shows what you learned in the experiment. The better you can communicate what you learned and how it connects to the principles being taught, the better the evaluation will be for you. Be brief but back up your statements with data and logical explanation.

\*\**Be sure to write this in 3rd person and be matter of fact about your statements. There should be no personal references made in the writing. \*\**