



Peer Review Form for Scientific Writing

Student: _____ Reviewer: _____

Questions to answer while reviewing the paper:

1. Is the title useful? What are the keywords?
2. Is the abstract brief? Are the purpose and important results stated? Are there any details that could be removed?

Introduction

3. Does the introduction section 1) put the experiment in context, 2) provide background about the subject and 3) explain why it is a relevant study? If not, what information would make it more clear?
4. What is the hypothesis? Do you know what to expect in the rest of the paper?

Methods

5. Does the methods section clearly state the specific materials, equipment and instrumentation used? What, if anything, is left out?
6. Are there enough details provided for you to effectively reproduce the study? If not, what could be added to make it more useful?

Results and Discussion

7. Does the results section use well-labeled graphs, diagrams, tables or photos to illustrate the most important results? Are the graphics adequately explained in the text?



8. Are there errors inherent to the study? Are the ways to minimize this error addressed?

9. How is the results and discussion section organized? Can you suggest a more effective way to organize it?

Conclusion

10. Does the conclusion section address the implications of the most important results?

11. How are the results related to the context addressed in the introduction?

12. Are improvements and ideas for future studies suggested?

Odds and Ends

13. Is the paper written in the appropriate voice (active or passive, depending on faculty preference)?

14. Are the interpretations of the results sufficiently skeptical and balanced, or do they infer more than logically follows?

15. Is background information and previous studies cited using a formal citation style?