

Moorpark College Chemistry Department Laboratory Report Rubric

Name: _____ Experiment: _____ Total: _____

CATEGORY	4 – Accomplished	3 – Good	2 – Developing	1 – Beginning	0 – Substandard	Score
Abstract	Clear, concise (~½ page), and thorough summary of results with appropriate literature references.	Refers to most of the major results; some minor details are missing or not clearly stated.	Misses one or more major aspects of the results.	Missing several major aspects of the results and merely repeats information from the introduction.	None, unrelated, or plagiarized.	____x2
Introduction	A cohesive, well-written summary (including relevant reaction chemistry) of the background material pertinent to the experiment with appropriate literature references (at least one scientific reference if required by your instructor) and a statement of purpose.	Introduction is nearly complete but does not provide context for minor points. Contains relevant information but fails to provide background for one aspect of the experiment, or certain information is not cohesive.	Certain major introductory points are missing (e.g., background, theory, reaction chemistry), or explanations are unclear and confusing. References are not scholarly.	Very little background information is provided, and information is incorrect. No references are provided.	None, unrelated, or plagiarized.	____x2
Methods & Materials	Contains a complete listing of safety information, a narrative of experimental procedures followed, and materials used. Omits information that can be assumed by peers. Includes observations when appropriate and only important experimental details.	Narrative includes most important experimental details. Missing one or more relevant pieces of safety information or experimental procedure.	Narrative is missing several experimental details and safety information or includes insignificant procedural details.	Several important experimental details and safety information are missing. Procedural steps are incorrect, illogical, or occasionally copied directly from the laboratory manual.	None, unrelated, or plagiarized (including completely copied from the laboratory manual).	____
Results & Calculations	All figures, graphs, and tables are numbered with appropriate titles and captions. Sample calculations are shown and correctly solved. All data is explicitly mentioned in the text.	All figures, graphs, and tables are correctly drawn, but some have minor problems or could still be improved. All data and sample calculations are mentioned in the text.	Most figures, graphs, and tables are included, but some important or required features are missing. Certain data and sample calculations are not explained in the text and/or solved incorrectly.	Figures, graphs, and tables are poorly constructed, have missing titles, captions or numbers. Certain data and sample calculations are not referenced in the text and solved incorrectly.	None, unrelated, or plagiarized.	____x2

CATEGORY	4 – Accomplished	3 – Good	2 – Developing	1 – Beginning	0 – Substandard	Score
Discussion & Conclusion	Demonstrates a logical, coherent working knowledge and understanding of important experimental concepts, forms appropriate conclusions based on interpretations of results and/or spectrum (spectra) analysis, addresses any post-lab questions in paragraph format, includes applications of and improvements in the experiment, refers to the literature when appropriate, and demonstrates accountability by providing justification for any errors.	Demonstrates an understanding of the majority of important experimental concepts, forms conclusions based on results and/or spectrum (spectra) analysis but either lacks proper interpretation, does not answer post-lab questions in paragraph format, suggests inappropriate improvements in the experiment, refers to the literature insufficiently, or lacks overall justification of error.	While some of the results have been correctly interpreted and discussed, partial understanding of results is still evident. Student fails to make one or two connections to underlying theory.	Does not demonstrate an understanding of the important experimental concepts, forms inaccurate conclusions, does not answer post-lab questions in paragraph format, suggests inappropriate improvements in the experiment, refers to the literature insufficiently, and lacks overall justification of error.	None, unrelated, insignificant error analysis and incorrect explanation, or plagiarized.	____×2
References* (see sample below)	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented in ACS format. At least one reference is taken from primary scientific literature relevant to the report if required by instructor.	All sources are accurately documented, but a few are not in ACS format. Some sources are not accurately documented.	All sources are accurately documented, but many are not in ACS format. Most sources are not directly cited in the text.	All sources are accurately documented but not directly cited in the text.	Sources are not documented nor directly cited in the text.	____
Miscellaneous (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanics, grammar, and appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Appendix <input type="checkbox"/> Lab Notebook <input type="checkbox"/> VSEPR and Valence Bond drawings	Grammar and spelling are correct. All required components are included, complete, and/or illustrated correctly. Paper is not written in first person. Includes ChemSketch image(s) if required by instructor. For Chem IA XY lab, see lab manual for more details.	Less than three grammatical and spelling errors are present. Missing one required component or features an improperly labeled molecular representation.	More than three grammatical and spelling errors are present or paper is written in first person. Features multiple errors with labeled molecular representation.	Frequent grammatical and spelling errors, and writing style lacks cohesion and fluidity. Paper is written in first person. Labeled molecule contains multiple errors.	None, unrelated, or plagiarized.	____×2

*Journal citations must include author or editor, *title (in italics)* followed by a period, **year (boldface)**, *volume (in italics)*, and page numbers. For example: Schrauzer, G.N.; Windgassen, R.J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1966**, *99*, 3738–3743. For additional examples, see the *ACS Style Guide* (summary can be found online).