

Galax High School Lab Report Format

These are the general directions for completing a lab report at Galax High School. Each teacher will have specific requirements, so please use this format as a guide to beginning the rough draft of your report.

It will include the following parts:

Title Page: The title page of your lab should be stapled on the front of your lab report. Once you get to the actual report, the following parts should be on lines with Roman numerals. Please skip a line between parts.

I. Title: The title of the lab report should be on the first line of the lab report.

II. Abstract: Abstracts are usually written in the passive voice and in past tense. It will be written AFTER you complete your experiment, but will appear in your lab report immediately following the title. State the purpose, describe methods, summarize the most important results, and state the major conclusions and significance in 50-200 words.

III. Purpose (Background): The purpose of the lab is usually recorded on the information you receive in class. This is the part of the lab report where you will state your hypothesis if you had one, and where you will share any background information that would make your lab report more meaningful.

IV. Materials: List everything you use to complete your experiment, with the exception of common materials like pen or pencil.

V. Procedure: This is a numbered list of steps that describes how you completed your investigation. Write it as if another student was trying to duplicate your experiment. If there was an experimental apparatus, a picture would be helpful.

VI. Data: This section has calculations (if present) and the data you recorded during your investigation. Data should be organized into charts, tables, and graphs when appropriate. No explanation is necessary. All charts, tables, and graphs should have a title. Charts, tables, or graphs from the procedure may be cut and taped into your lab report.

VII. Data Analysis/Results: This section is where you will interpret the data you collected and determine if your hypothesis (if you had one) was supported or not. This is where you would discuss any mistakes you might have made while performing your investigation; this is also where you might suggest ways you could have improved your technique.

VIII. Conclusion: Most of the time, this will be a short paragraph that sums up what happened in the investigation, restates your hypothesis and tells whether it was supported or rejected.

IX. Personal Reflections: In this section, you will consider the implications of this lab to your daily life.