

## Writing a Lab Report for AP Biology

Each semester, you are required to turn in a full lab write-up. This is in addition to the regular lab write-up (analysis and assessment questions) that you have been used to completing for each lab. During the first semester, you may write up either Lab 5 or Lab 4. (You may write up both labs and choose the best score if you wish.) During the second semester, you will be writing up Lab 9.

### **These sections should be written up before conducting the lab:**

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**Title:** Write the title of the lab.

**Introduction:** Summarize the background information into one or two paragraphs. You don't need to include every little detail, but you should include enough to show an understanding of the principles involved. If there are pre-lab questions, the answers should be covered in your introduction, too.

**Question:** Write the question to be answered by conducting the lab.

**Hypothesis:** Write your hypothesis.

**Procedure:** Summarize the procedures *in paragraph form*. Again, you do not have to include every minor detail, but you should include enough detail that someone outside of class would be able to follow the procedure. Obviously, you will have to understand the procedure to summarize it! If you don't, study the CD-ROM or the phschool web site until you do.

### **After lab, you will write up these sections:**

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**Data or Observations:** Present your data in an orderly fashion, using tables and graphs as suggested by the lab sheets. Original data will be recorded in your lab book; you will need to reproduce your data in your lab write-up.

**Analysis / Conclusion:** Write your conclusion in paragraph form. This conclusion should include the answer to the original question as well as answers to analysis questions from the lab sheets that apply to the experiment. Some Assessment questions don't really fit into a conclusion of the lab and can be answered on the lab sheet instead, if desired.

***When you are finished, your lab report will look like a short, simple science fair paper. This report is due the Monday following the completion of the lab.***