Lab Report Format

Your Name

Date

Course Name

Period

Instructor’s Name (Maloney)

**The title page is designed to be a short piece of information about the lab itself and the individual submitting the work.**

**Introduction**

The introduction is a crucial aspect of the lab report. In this section you are going to provide me with proof that you understand the content associated with the topic of the lab. This is not designed to mention anything about the results of the lab, but rather a “textbook” style mentioning of the content. You are identifying the bigger theories, laws, and underlying principles. This is where you are expected to bring in outside information and you are EXPECTED to cite the source of that information in a proper format.

**Purpose**

 This is where you write a clear and concise statement about the problem to be addressed in the lab, the hypothesis to be tested, or the question(s) to be answered in the lab.

**Materials and Methods**

 Identify the materials used then identify a brief summation of the methods (procedure). You are NOT to insert a copy of the lab handout, you are NOT to retype the steps in the lab from the handout either. This is where any potential sketches are inserted. This is to be written like a narrative, not just a list of procedure. The materials can be listed however. The reader should be able to read through this part and identify what is occurring during this lab.

**Results**

 This part occurs in two major parts.

 Part A **–** You are compiling all of the results from the lab here. You are not interpreting the result, just putting the information here. This is just the reporting of the results.

 Part B **–** All tables, Graphs, Diagrams. Every figure needs a label and brief description.

 Ex. Graph 1 – Temperature vs. Time for Copper Sulfate and Aluminum Foil Reaction

**Discussion**

 In this section you are writing a clear and concise multiple paragraph explanation of your analysis and explanation of your results. In this section you are applying the relevant laws, theories, or understandings to prove or refute your results. You are not “proving” anything in these investigations, rather confirming or verifying. Everything should be relevant, not just superfluous writing. The biggest aspect of the discussion is to not leave any cliffhangers. Don’t write a statement about a result but not explain how significant it is or why you got the result you did. You can also troubleshoot problems or identify issues with the accuracy and precision of the experiment. This is where you relate all aspects of the lab together. Specific content to be included in the discussion will be mentioned during each lab.

**References Cited**

 List all of the cited sources in alphabetical order by author.