

# Grading Worksheet for Biology 1110 Lab Report

*Don't forget to review guidelines on what constitutes plagiarism. Academic integrity violations are taken very seriously.*

Your lab report is NOT a collaborative effort - each student must write their own report.

You will be writing a lab report for Activity 7 on cricket behavior.



Your report must be typed, proofread, and grammatically correct. This is a formal written form of communication so please prepare it accordingly!!

## General Notes:

- Make sure to label each section of the report. Both activities should be reported collectively in a single report. You will have a cover sheet, an introduction section, a results section, a conclusion and analysis section, and a list of sources. In scientific writing, try to stay away from first person and be factual. You don't want to make this an opinion paper.
- Use a normal size font, 1 inch margins, and 1.5 or double space the text. You don't need to add large fonts, clip art, etc.
- Do not use quotes in your report - everything should be written in your own words.
- Your report must have a copy of the Grading Rubric for Lab Instructor stapled to the end of the report.

## Your report will be graded based on the following criteria:

### Cover sheet (5) \_\_\_\_\_

- Appropriate title provided for the report - something descriptive
- Your name, date, and TA's name are clearly indicated
- A statement that reads: "I have complied with all rules of academic integrity while preparing this report"

### Introduction: (25) \_\_\_\_\_

- This is where you provide your reader with background information about the experiments. Your introduction should be written in paragraph form and should give the reader a very brief overview to understand what you did, why you are did it, and the significance of the lab. You will want to talk some about types of behavior (particularly innate behaviors, dominance hierarchies and how evolution selects for these behaviors. You should use examples from animals other than crickets. This should be written so that someone who has not taken this lab can understand. (20)

- Any material used in the introduction that is not common knowledge needs to be cited in text. Do not use quotes! Phrase the information in your own words and give credit to the source you used.
- Purpose of the lab clearly stated and hypotheses should be clearly stated. (5)

### Results (20) \_\_\_\_\_

- An appropriate table or chart was provided to summarize results (15)
  - This should be a record of the interactions of your crickets. Do not just staple in your results sheet from the manual - type it and make it look nice in the report!
- The results need to have a brief written explanation to narrate the charts or tables. All you are doing here is stating the results. Don't interpret or discuss them in this section. (5)

### Conclusions and Analysis (35) \_\_\_\_\_

- Results were clearly **analyzed** and **interpreted** for the experiment. Please note that this does not mean to restate your results. This is where you ANALYZE your results and explain what may have caused them. What does the dominance hierarchy look like for your crickets? Did your conclusions agree with your hypothesis? Come up with an explanation for why or why not. (20)
  - You need to be addressing issues such as why the defense of territories and dominance hierarchies is important and how this can influence reproductive success and fitness.
- Use your sources to support your conclusions/assertions. (5)
- A "**take home message**" statement was provided for the experiment. This means that you explained to the reader the significance of the experiment and the results. (5)
- Any source of experimental errors or factors that might alter the results in "real life" was provided. Errors ALWAYS happen and they are not bad! Just state anything you did that might have changed the results. (5)

### General: (10) \_\_\_\_\_

- Grammar and spelling - proofread it! (**Big problems here will cost additional deductions in other sections**)
- Write professionally - avoid personalizing in your report.
- Overall organization and flow - write everything as unified paragraphs.
- Format was correct.
- Appropriate tone and level - write in a neutral voice and stay impartial. The only place to put in your opinions and thoughts will be in the conclusions.

### Sources (5) \_\_\_\_\_

- You should use at least 3 sources. **The lab manual does not count as a source.** You may use the PP presentation posted on BlackBoard as a source.
- Sources must be credible - things like Wikipedia, dictionaries, encyclopedias, etc. are not legitimate sources! Look for reputable sources (sources that are .edu or .gov are often good)

- You must list your sources at the end of the report and have in-text citations within your report. Make sure you understand how to properly cite in text AND what constitutes plagiarism.

#### **Deductions**

- Reports that do not have three sources or fail to cite in text will have a minimum of 10 points deducted from the final grade of the report.
- Reports that fail to follow formatting directions, lack proofreading, or are hard to follow will have significant deductions.
- Reports that do not have the Grading Rubric for Lab Instructor attached will have 5 points deducted.

This report is due at the beginning of your scheduled lab period during the week of March 30. If you are late, your report will not be accepted.