

INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INVESTIGATION EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN CHECKLIST

- **Project Selection (In order for projects to be accepted):**
 - No project should be recycled from previous school years or from another person.
 - No project should be copied and pasted from the Internet.
 - Topics must be approved by the student's teacher prior to the student working on the investigation.
 - The investigation must portray scientific thought.
 - The content (research) learned that is related to the investigation and the results of the investigation must exhibit real world relevance.
 - The investigation must be grade-level and/or ability-level appropriate.

- **Format:**
 - Typed and printed in black ink on white copy paper
 - Margins: One-inch margins (Top, bottom, and both sides)
 - Font type: Times New Roman
 - Font size: 12 points
 - Double space is used between the title and the title of the investigation, between the title of the investigation and the outline, and between each of the 7 components (Purpose, Independent Variable, Dependent Variable, Hypothesis, Control Variables, Procedures, and Results)
 - Single space within the content typed for each of the 7 components

- **Outline of Content:**
 - Student's name is right aligned as a header
 - The title of this piece of work, *Experimental Design*, is centered at the top margin
 - A relevant title for the investigation is left aligned and double-spaced below *Experimental Design*
 - The 7 labels (Purpose, Independent Variable, Dependent Variable, Hypothesis, Control Variables, Procedures, and Results) that are relevant to an experimental design precedes the appropriate content
 - The 7 relevant components are in order

- **Content:**
 - The 7 components (Purpose, Independent Variable, Dependent Variable, Hypothesis, Control Variables, Procedures, and Results) contain correct information
 - Each component builds on the previous component
 - Each component contains thorough information
 - Procedures (relevant steps of the experiment are listed in detail with specific materials, measurements, etc.)
 - Results [The layout of the table(s) and/or graph(s) should show how you will organize and display your data. Do not insert any actual data into the table(s) and/or graph(s) on the experimental design. Only insert the title, headings, and relevant units.]
 - Length: 160 – 250 words

□ **Writing Style:**

- No name(s) of the investigator or human subjects are used
- Human subjects must be identified by pseudo names (Examples: Person A, Person B, Subject A, Subject B, etc.)
- The experimental design is typed in third person (i.e. No pronouns referring to the investigator, such as, I, me, my, mine, we, our, etc. are used)
- The experimental design is typed in **FUTURE** verb tense

□ **Grammar and Mechanics:**

- Capitalization rules are followed
- Spelling rules are followed
- Punctuation rules are followed
- Spacing rules and guidelines between sections, sentences, and words are followed
- Verb tense rules are followed
- Subject-verb agreement rules are followed
- Sentence structure rules are followed
- Coherent and complete components are established

□ **Presentation:**

- Neat
- Clean
- Professional (in a report cover with a clear view front)