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| **Criteria** | **Meets Expectation**  **(8-10)** | **Below Expectation**  **(4-7)** | **Unsatisfactory**  **(0-3)** | **Points earned** |
| |  | | --- | | Overall Quality | | |  | | --- | | Presents a concise lead-in to the report. Exceptionally clear, concise, and insightful. | | |  | | --- | | Gives some information but not to the level of a 3. | | |  | | --- | | Does not give any information about what to expect in the report. | |  |
| Purpose/Problem | Clearly stated | Somewhat unclearly stated or issues in its introduction | Not clear or absent (0) |  |
| Background Information (supporting information) | Appropriate to the topic, clearly and accurately presented, providing precise examples, facts and details, while conveying both the depth and breadth of the topic. | Appropriate to the topic is accurately presented, providing selected examples, facts and details, but lacking the depth and richness of detail. | Minimal scientific background is presented, using some examples that may or may not be appropriate or relevant. |  |
| Specific Topic Research | The topic is thoroughly researched, using an ingenious variety of high level resources. | Research lacks variety, and some sources may or may not be appropriate. | Research is lacking in both variety and appropriateness. |  |
| Terminology | Use of scientific terms and concepts reveals a deep understanding of underlying scientific ideas. | Scientific terms and concepts are used correctly. | Scientific terms and concepts are used incorrectly, or topic is discussed in completely nonscientific terms. |  |
| Mechanics | Grammar and usage are correct and contribute to clarity. Punctuation is correct and paragraphing adds to organizational structure. | Very few mistakes in grammar and usage. Paragraphing may create minor problems. Spelling and punctuation are almost entirely correct. | Errors in grammar and usage affect meaning. Paragraphing is missing or does not relate to organization of text. Frequent spelling errors. Punctuation is often missing or incorrect |  |
| Organization & Coherence | Organization enhances the central theme. Sequencing is logical and transitions are smooth. | Organization is adequate. Introduction may need more anticipation. Conclusion may lack closure. | Organization is not clear. Connections are confusing. Introduction and conclusion are present but are unclear or incomplete. |  |
| APA In-Text Citations | Citations 100% accurate, no errors. | Citations mostly correct with specific errors repeated, or few random errors. | Citations mostly incorrect and largely in error, or no citations present. |  |
| References Cited | All sources are correctly cited and are 100% accurate. | Some errors in formatting exist, but section is largely correct. | Many errors in format or only a brief list present. No references cited section present. |  |
| **Total & Comments:** | | | |  |