Anatomy and Physiology

FORMAT FOR A LABORATORY REPORT (Go by this format in writing all lab reports for this course.)

Performing laboratory experiments and making observations is a very important aspect in the study of science, but equally important is the manner in which you record your results. Your laboratory report should cover all the important information related to your experiment or observation. Your lab report should be done in a very neat format. The following is a discussion of the major headings in your lab report. Include all in your report unless otherwise directed. Type each heading in CAPS & USE the Bold.

OBJECTIVE
The objective statement is a statement that explains the reason for doing the experiment. You also need to state the biological principles and concepts that are being used. This section of your report needs to be at least 3 sentences.

MATERIALS
The materials section of your lab report should be an organized list of materials used for the experiment.

PROCEDURE
The procedure section needs to have a summary of the important activities done during the experiment. You do not need to have the step-by-step procedure; it should be in your own words. Do not copy the procedures used in the lab.

ANALYSIS: includes
The analysis section of your report should be organized prior to performing your experiment, unless directed otherwise. Some or all the following types of information may need to be included in the analysis.

A. OBSERVATIONS
Observations are what you observe with your senses during an experiment. Examples of possible observations are changes in physical or chemical conditions. At times drawings or sketches may be needed to further explain your observations.

B. DATA
Any information that is used in determining the results of the experiment is usually classified as data. It is very important that the data collected during the experiment be properly identified, and that correct significant index digits and units be used. Do not leave numerical data unsubstantiated. Equipment and instruments must be read to the correct number of significant digits. As a general rule, one estimated digit should be recorded as the final significant digit.

C. TABLES
In many experiments the amount of information included in your observations and data will be extensive. Tables are a very efficient means of organizing information. Sample tables are
provided for some experiments. All information should be clearly labeled. Whenever there are several calculated values, they should be organized in a table. Tables must have titles.

**CONCLUSIONS:  DO NOT FORGET TO INCLUDE THIS!!**
The conclusions section of your laboratory report should thoroughly describe what you discovered during the laboratory experiment or observation. In other words, it is a synopsis of your results. You also need to include how what you did in the lab relates to what has been discussed in class and use scientific terms learned in class. **This must be at least 3 – 5 sentences in length.** It may need to be more than one paragraph.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:**
Each lab will usually be followed by questions that will be connected with the experiment. You should always type the question in **CAPS**, using **BOLD** and then provide a **thorough** answer in **regular** font (size 12). ALWAYS skip a line between the answer and the question that follows.