

# Sections to be included in your scientific poster presentation

**Title:** Used to convey the single overall main message

- Headline title with noun and verb
- 1-2 lines max
- Can be straightforward or it can be "catchy"

**Abstract:** See your instructor on this (some will require it, some will not)

**Introduction:** The purpose of this section is to get the viewer interested about issue or question and to provide some background information/knowledge in order for the reader to understand your results

- State the purpose/aim/goal of your investigation
- Give background information as it pertains to your study (theories, laws, equations that you will use)
- State the purpose of the laboratory experiment
- State your hypothesis (an educated guess as to what you thought you would observe/gain by doing the experiment)

**Methods/Materials:** The purpose of this section is to describe the experiment you did (in past tense, third person)

- Use figures, photos, drawings to illustrate experimental design if possible;
- Use flow charts (the type with text, numbers and drawings within boxes) to summarize steps or timing
- Perhaps mention statistical analyses (averages, standard deviations) used and how they address hypothesis
- Be brief, highly visual, and concise (don't bog the reader down with details e.g., 45 mL of nitric acid were carefully and slowly poured into a 250 mL beaker sitting on the lab bench!)

**Results:** This section summarizes what you found (the data)

- Result graphs support only discussion points
- Each graphs/chart/table provides quantitative and qualitative/descriptive results
- Each graph/chart should contain headline title and/or takeaway conveying understandable main point (may be the only thing read, needs to be clear)
- Cut down to key words only
- Bullets OK

**Discussion:** This section is used to interpret your data and to discuss/explain your results from the previous section (what does 'the data set' mean)

- explain the results and draw inferences and conclusions from the data set

- briefly comment on improvements to the experiment or further work

**Conclusions:**

- A sentence or two on what this experiment proved/showed (its importance); was your hypothesis correct?
- Must include one or two bullets for future directions (what I would do differently if I did this again or had more time/money)
- Max 150 words

**Literature Cited (References):**

- Follow MLA format
- Any information that you used from other sources should be cited within the text where you used that information. The source of that citation is then listed in the References or Literature Cited section

## Grading Rubric Used for Poster:

Rating					
Criteria	Unsatisfactory (0 points)	Fair (5 points)	Satisfactory (10 points)	Good (15 points)	Excellent (20 points)
<b>Content:</b>					
<b>Title</b>	Does not reflect content of presentation	Poorly reflects content of presentation	Generally reflects content of presentation	Reflects content of presentation very well but not thoroughly	Thoroughly, accurately, and clearly reflects content of presentation
<b>Abstract</b>	Does not describe poster content clearly	Poorly describes poster content; description of objectives, methods, results, and/or conclusions not provided or severely lacking	Generally describes poster content; description of objectives, methods, results, and/or conclusions generally satisfactory but may be lacking	Satisfactorily describes poster content; objectives, results, and conclusions are stated sufficiently; methods are described	Accurately describes poster content; objectives, results, and conclusions clearly stated; methods described sufficiently to relate to conclusions
<b>Introduction/ Background</b>	Insufficient information from the literature provided to support the objectives; purpose and hypotheses not stated	Very little information from the literature provided to support the objectives; purpose and hypotheses are unclear	Information from the literature provided, but only generally relates to the objectives; purpose and hypotheses are stated	Adequate information from the literature provided to support the objectives; purpose and hypotheses stated well	Thorough information from the literature provided to support the objectives; purpose and hypotheses clearly stated

Criteria	Unsatisfactory (0 points)	Fair (5 points)	Satisfactory (10 points)	Good (15 points)	Excellent (20 points)
<b>Quality:</b>					
<b>Presentation</b>	Poor; text provided poorly explains background, methods, and results and states objectives and conclusions; poster poorly laid out and difficult to read; many grammatical, spelling, and/or punctuation errors	Inadequate; text provided marginally explains background, methods, and results and states objectives and conclusions; lay out and legibility of poster needs improvement; some grammatical, spelling, and/or punctuation errors	Adequate; text provided generally explains background, methods, and results and states objectives and conclusions, but may be lacking in one or more of these areas; poster sufficiently laid out and legible; almost no grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors	Clear and logical; text provided explains background, methods, and results and states objectives and conclusions, but may be slightly excessive or lacking; poster generally well laid out and legible; no grammatical, spelling, and/or punctuation errors	Clear, logical, and concise; text provided is sufficient to explain background, methods, and results and state objectives and conclusions, but is not excessive; poster is well laid out, legible, and contains maps, models, and flow charts as appropriate to help the reader understand

Criteria	Unsatisfactory (0 points)	Fair (5 points)	Satisfactory (10 points)	Good (15 points)	Excellent (20 points)
Materials and Methods	Did not address study question(s); analytical methods used were inappropriate; study design was not considered for testing the hypotheses and/or statistical analyses were not used	Poorly addressed the study question(s); analytical methods used were inadequate; study was poorly designed for testing the hypotheses, and statistical analyses were inappropriate	Generally addressed the study question(s); analytical methods used were adequate, but more appropriate methods are available; study design and statistical analyses not well thought out and were marginally suitable for testing the hypotheses	Adequate for addressing the study question(s); analytical methods used were sufficient; suitable study design and statistical analyses were used for testing the hypotheses	Appropriate for addressing the study question(s); analytical methods used were highly appropriate; study design and statistical analyses used for testing the hypotheses were well thought out
Results	Presented poorly; graphics and tables do not present data which supports conclusions	Results, graphics, and tables presented do not clearly present data collected and/or support conclusions	Results, graphics, and tables present data collected; data generally support conclusions but are confusing and some data are lacking	Presented clearly; graphics and tables adequately present the results; slightly too much or too little data presented to support conclusions	Presented logically and concisely; graphics and tables adequately and clearly present results; enough data presented to support conclusions
Discussion	No interpretation of results is provided.	Appropriate interpretation of results and supporting information not provided; significant findings not presented clearly or not presented	Adequate interpretation of results provided; more supporting information could be provided; significant findings presented in general terms	Good interpretation of results provided; some supporting information provided; significant findings presented but not highlighted	Excellent and appropriate interpretation of results provided; supporting information provided when necessary; significant findings highlighted
Conclusions	Not supported by the results and discussion, or can not be drawn due to the limitations of the study	Not clearly supported by the results and discussion; potential importance of the conclusions discussed.	Generally supported by the results and discussion; importance of the conclusions discussed in general terms	Stated well and are supported by the results and discussion; importance of the conclusions discussed; suggestions for future work are alluded to	Stated clearly and concisely; well supported by the results and discussion; importance of the conclusions is stated clearly; suggestions for future work provided

**GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE POSTER:**

**Score:** \_\_\_\_\_ (out of 160 points)