

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE  
SCIENTIFIC WRITING FOR LABORATORY ACTIVITIES**

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## Appendix B: Base Explanation Rubric

Component	Level		
	0	1	2
<i>Claim</i> —A conclusion that answers the original question.	Does not make a claim, or makes an inaccurate claim.	Makes an accurate but incomplete claim.	Makes an accurate and complete claim.
<i>Evidence</i> —Scientific data that supports the claim. The data needs to be appropriate and sufficient to support the claim.	Does not provide evidence, or only provides inappropriate evidence (evidence that does not support claim).	Provides appropriate but insufficient evidence to support claim. May include some inappropriate evidence.	Provides appropriate and sufficient evidence to support claim.
<i>Reasoning</i> —A justification that links the claim and evidence. It shows why the data count as evidence by using appropriate and sufficient scientific principles.	Does not provide reasoning, or only provides reasoning that does not link evidence to claim.	Provides reasoning that links the claim and evidence. Repeats the evidence and/or includes some—but not sufficient—scientific principles.	Provides reasoning that links evidence to claim. Includes appropriate and sufficient scientific principles.

Source: NSTA Science Scope