

## Science Investigation Reports

### What is a science investigation report?

A science investigation report is a report written by scientists to communicate the **results of their practical experiment** to other scientists in the scientific community. Using a process called the scientific method, scientists search for cause and effect relationships. They design an experiment so that any change that occurs can be measured.

### Voice

Third person is used as the author is writing in the formal role of a scientist.

### Language & Grammar

- Language choice is formal.
- Mixture of past, present and future tense, depending on section of report.
- Procedural language and statements used for the Aim and Method sections.
- Variety of long and short sentences, paragraphs and bulleted points.
- Contractions are not appropriate.
- Relevant scientific language adds authenticity to information, analysis and conclusions presented.
- Cause and effect language and phrases used when discussing results.

### Structure and Organisation

Title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A descriptive title that indicates what the experiment is about.</li></ul>
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explains the purpose of the experiment concisely. Usually one to two sentences.</li></ul>
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The topic of the experiment is introduced in an interesting and informative paragraph.</li></ul>
Hypothesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides an explanation in sentences of the predicted outcome/s of the experiment, with justification for the decision.</li></ul>
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A complete list of the materials, including the amounts, and equipment need to complete the experiment. Is presented as a bulleted list.</li></ul>
Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Numbered list of instructions to demonstrate the steps that were conducted to complete the experiment, including the materials and techniques used, so that the reader could replicate the experiment.</li><li>• A diagram may be included to show the required set-up of equipment or how to perform the procedure.</li></ul>
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presents a summary of the data gather from the experiment, usually in table, chart or diagram format. Must be clearly titled and labelled.</li></ul>

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data collected is critically analysed. This will include a discussion of the how the aims of the experiment and an explanation of why the hypothesis was (or was not) correct. Written in paragraphs.</li></ul>
Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A summary of the experiment conducted and final statement of validity of hypothesis. No new information is included.</li></ul>
Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An alphabetical list of sources consulted in preparation for, or during, the experiment.</li></ul>

*Exemplar Year 7*

*Exemplar Year 8*

*Exemplar Year 9*