Research Paper Peer Review Checklist

Self-Check – each question is worth one point

**General formatting** score: \_\_\_/5

Is the font either Arial or Times New Roman? Is the font size between 10 and 12?  
Are there at least four (4) paragraphs? Is there a blank line separating paragraphs?  
  
**Title** score: \_\_\_/5  
Is there a title? Does the title relate to the topic of the paper? Does the title make sense?   
Is the title not just restating the topic of the paper?   
Is the title properly capitalized and centered at the top of the paper?

**Introduction** **Paragraph** score: \_\_\_/5

Does the paragraph begin with the question being investigated?  
Does the paragraph explain why the question was selected for a **scientific** reason?  
Does the paragraph end with a sentence like the hypothesis, which is the main idea of the paper?

Is there a brief explanation of why the hypothesis is expected to happen?

Is the paragraph free of errors in grammar, spelling, and reasoning?

**Terms and Definitions** score: \_\_\_/5

Does the paragraph describe the ideas and vocabulary needed to understand the science?  
Are terms given in a narrative paragraph, not as a list or glossary format?

Is it easy to understand why the terms and ideas are being described?  
Are all the necessary terms and ideas included so the basic science behind the project is well explained?

Is the paragraph free of errors in grammar, spelling, and reasoning?

**Research Explanation** score: \_\_\_\_/5

Does the paragraph provide enough information about the specific project so it is clear what is being tested?

Does the paragraph provide enough information so that the hypothesis makes sense?

Does the paragraph state the hypothesis as a single, testable statement predicting the outcome of the experiment?

Is the hypothesis supported with explanations linking the terms and ideas from the previous paragraph?

Is the paragraph free of errors in grammar, spelling, and reasoning?

**Conclusion** score: \_\_\_\_/5

Does the paragraph begin with a summary of the research?

Does the research summary explain the hypothesis effectively?  
Does the paragraph restate the question?

Does the paragraph end with the hypothesis?

Is the paragraph free of errors in grammar, spelling, and reasoning?

**Works Cited** score: \_\_\_\_/5

Does the Works Cited start on its own page?

Are the references listed in alphabetical order?

Are the references shown in MLA format?

Are all references from legitimate sources? (No Wikipedia, Google, Answers.com, Yahoo, Bing, etc.)

Are there at least 5 references?

Total \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/34

Peer reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
*Each question is worth one point.*

**General formatting** score: \_\_\_/4

Is the font either Arial or Times New Roman? Is the font size between 10 and 12?  
Are there at least four (4) paragraphs? Is there a blank line separating paragraphs?  
  
**Title** score: \_\_\_/5  
Is there a title? Does the title relate to the topic of the paper? Does the title make sense?   
Is the title not just restating the topic of the paper?   
Is the title properly capitalized and centered at the top of the paper?

**Introduction** **Paragraph** score: \_\_\_/5

Does the paragraph begin with the question being investigated?  
Does the paragraph explain why the question was selected for a scientific reason?  
Does the paragraph end with a sentence like the hypothesis, which is the main idea of the paper?

Is there a brief explanation of why the hypothesis is expected to happen?

Is the paragraph free of errors in grammar, spelling, and reasoning?

**Terms and Definitions** score: \_\_\_/5

Does the paragraph describe the ideas and vocabulary needed to understand the science?  
Are terms given in a narrative paragraph, not as a list or glossary format?

Is it easy to understand why the terms and ideas are being described?  
Are all the necessary terms and ideas included so the basic science behind the project is well explained?

Is the paragraph free of errors in grammar, spelling, and reasoning?

**Research Explanation** score: \_\_\_\_/5

Does the paragraph provide enough information about the specific project so it is clear what is being tested?

Does the paragraph provide enough information so that the hypothesis makes sense?

Does the paragraph state the hypothesis as a single, testable statement predicting the outcome of the experiment?

Is the hypothesis supported with explanations linking the terms and ideas from the previous paragraph?

Is the paragraph free of errors in grammar, spelling, and reasoning?

**Conclusion** score: \_\_\_\_/5

Does the paragraph begin with a summary of the research?

Does the research summary explain the hypothesis effectively?  
Does the paragraph restate the question?

Does the paragraph end with the hypothesis?

Is the paragraph free of errors in grammar, spelling, and reasoning?

**Works Cited** score: \_\_\_\_/5

Does the Works Cited start on its own page?

Are the references listed in alphabetical order?

Are the references shown in MLA format?

Are all references from legitimate sources? (No Wikipedia, Google, Answers.com, Yahoo, Bing, etc.)

Are there at least 5 references?

Total \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/34