

JSEHS

PAPER PREPARATION GUIDELINES

I. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Effective reporting of a research project is a very important phase of the scientific endeavor.

The paper report should be an accurate presentation of a research project conducted by the student. Generally, projects consist of defining a problem; seeking background information from teachers, engineers, technicians, physicians, scientists, and others in the community as well as scientific journals and books; designing an experimental approach to solving the problem; conducting controlled field or laboratory investigations; drawing appropriate conclusions and preparing a written report, presented in an organized and logical manner, revealing all aspects of the investigation. Other creative endeavors not necessarily following this pattern will be considered.

II. FORMAT

The report should be concise. Ten to fifteen typewritten pages, double spaced on standard 8 1/2 x 11 paper, should generally be considered a maximum length. If accepted for reading, the oral presentation of the paper cannot exceed 12 minutes in length.

Each paper should have a cover sheet with title, the name of the researcher, sponsoring teacher(s), school, address, and the broad category of investigation (biology, chemistry, earth and space science, etc.). Do not place the paper in a folder or binding of any kind. Attach all sheets together with one staple in the upper left hand corner. **MAIL TWO COPIES OF THE PAPER.**

The following format is suggested.

- I. Introduction
 - A. Cover page
 - B. Acknowledgement Page
 - C. Abstract, a brief review of the paper (300 words or less)
 - D. Table of contents
- II. Body (Text)
 - A. Statement of problem
 - B. Review of related literature and documented background information
 - C. Procedures
 - D. Presentation and discussion of results
 - E. Conclusions, implications and suggestions for future work
- III. Bibliography
 - A. List literature that you have read that is related to the problem. You are encouraged to use scientific journals and up-to-date textbooks rather than news media and general reference books, e.g. encyclopedias. Arrange the bibliographical references alphabetically by author.
 - B. Example
 1. Books
Wallace, Robert A., 1978. The Ecology and Evolution of Animal Behavior, 1st ed., Goodyear Publishing Company, Inc., Pacific Palisades, Calif.
 2. Journal Article
Govindjee, P.G. and Rajni Govindjee, 1974. "The Absorption of Light in Photosynthesis," Scientific American, Vol. 261, No. 6, pp. 12-24.

Other helpful suggestions concerning preparation of your report may be found in: Style Manual for Biological Journals, 2nd ed., American Institute for Biological Science, 3900 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Students will be expected to furnish TWO copies of their paper to the JSEHS judging committee on or before February 10. Be sure to retain a copy for your use since no papers can be returned.