**Familiarity with, and ability to demonstrate understanding of, scientific concepts:**

**Distinguished** – Shows a thorough understanding of scientific concepts. Student demonstrates an understanding of these concepts with appropriate detail and using correct terminology.

**Satisfactory** - Shows a good understanding of scientific concepts. The proper context of most terminology is understood. May be missing minor details.

**Borderline** – There is a noticeable limit to the breadth of conceptual understanding but student is able to demonstrate an understanding of important details. Command of scientific vocabulary is limited. The proper context of some terms is not understood.

**Unsatisfactory** – Lacking in comprehension of major scientific concepts. Many terms are not properly understood within the correct context.

**Use of acquired knowledge to make conclusions about data or observations:**

**Distinguished** - Makes logical/correct conclusions about data or observations. Clearly demonstrates how the data or observations support conclusions.

**Satisfactory** – Makes logical/correct conclusions about data or observations. Demonstrates how data or observations support conclusions, but is lacking in specificity.

**Borderline** –Some conclusions about data or observations are incorrect. Lacks understanding of details necessary to fully support conclusions.

**Unsatisfactory** – Most of the conclusions about data or observations are incorrect. There is no understanding of logical support for conclusions.

**Presentation of observations and conclusions:**

**Distinguished** – Demonstrates an understanding of observations and conclusions along with standard conventional formatting practices. Appropriate technology is used to present this work.

**Satisfactory** – Demonstrates an understanding of observations and conclusions but with minor errors in conventional formatting practices. Appropriate technology is used to present this work.

**Borderline** – Demonstrates a minimal understanding of observations and conclusions with many errors in conventional formatting practices. Appropriate technology is used to present this work.

**Unsatisfactory** – Makes many errors in conventional formatting. The appropriate technology has not been used for this work.