

Current Event Grading Rubric

Question	Excellent	Average	Poor
A Citation	1 Done correctly	0.5 One error	0 More than one error
B Person & Location	1 Name of scientist and institution	0.5 only scientist or only institution (unless this information cannot be found)	0 none or name of author of article (unless the author = the scientist)
C Question	2 Proper punctuation, well stated question appropriate for study	1 a question on topic, but not appropriate for study	0 Not a question, not related to the study
D Hypothesis	2 Statement. Represents a potential answer to the question and the investigation	X	0 Written as a question and/or not a reasonable outcome of the experiment.
E Context of Field	3 Reflects accurate placement of the research in the "big picture" and related to other research going on.	1.5 Identification of a somehow related field but "big picture" is missed.	0 unsupported answer
F Subjects of Research	1 correct	X	0 incorrect
G Control & Experimental Groups	4 both correct	2 one correct	0 neither correct
H Independent variable	2 correct difference between control and experimental groups that is being tested	0.5 dependent variable instead or confounding variable	0 confusion with control/experimental groups or no answer
I Dependent variable	2 Correct measured outcome of changing or examining changes in the dependent variable	0.5 independent variable instead or confounding variable	0 confusion with control/experimental groups or no answer

J Confounding variables	2 identification of at least one additional (or potential) difference between the control and experimental groups OR supportive reasoning why confounding variables are not a consideration in this study	X	0 None or far-fetched confounding variable
K Conclusion	2 Conclusion that the scientists made linking the independent and dependent variables. NOT a hypothesis or future direction.	1 Future direction or true statement that doesn't precisely address the question.	0 Statement that reaches beyond the data in the study.
L Agree with conclusion?	2 well-supported reason. This is not an "opinion" this is an evaluation of the data in relationship to the conclusion	1 Personal feelings or reason is supported with opinion/ inaccurate.	0 unsupported answer
M Confounding variables	1 supported answer	X	0 unsupported answer
N Journalist	1 supported answer	X	0 unsupported answer
O Next step	3 at least one appropriate next step	1 far-fetched next step	0 no answer
P Is it worth it?	1 supported answer	X	0 unsupported answer
Total	30		