

**BIO 110 L Prelab****LAB 2: Metric Measurement & the Scientific Method**

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The **metric system** is a system of units for measurement developed in late 18th century in France by the chemist Lavoisier. The metric system is based on units of ten, thus simplifying inter-conversions This base-ten system is similar to our monetary system, in which 10 cents equals a dime, The modern metric system (*modern* meaning post-1960) is now widely used throughout the world and is called the International System of Units (SI) ("*Système International d'Unités*" in French).

**Metric units commonly used in biology include:** **meter** (m) The basic unit of length      **liter** (L) The basic unit of volume  
**gram** (g) The basic unit of mass      **degree Celsius** (°C) The basic unit of temperature

1. **Scientific Method** The scientific method is a way to ask and answer scientific questions by making observations and doing experiments. The steps of the scientific method are to:
  1. Ask a Question    2. Do Background Research (Exploration)    3. Construct a Hypothesis
  4. Test Your Hypothesis by doing an Experiment. The experiment will provide evidence to support or disprove the hypothesis.    5. Analyze Your Data and Draw a Conclusion    6. Communicate Your Results

Answer the following **questions**:

Fill in the blank spaces (5x3=15pts)

2. 1. The metric system is based on units of ten
3. The modern metric system is called the International System of Units
4. Metric unit of temperature is degrees Celsius.
5. A hypothesis can be tested by doing an Experiment.
6. The experiment provides evidence to support or disprove the hypothesis.

**Basic Math in testing a hypothesis**

6. The weights of the 3 boys in Group Blue are 70kg, 45kg, and 85kg respectively.

What is their average weight? (10pts) 66.67kg (*Do not forget the units*)

**A given hypothesis states that height in cm divided by weight in kg is EXPECTED to be 5cm/kg.**

7. Mr. Mosquito's height is 160 cm. He weighs 74 kg. (15pts)
  - A. What is the **expected** value when *height in centimeters is divided by weight in kilograms*?  
5cm/kg (*Do not forget the units*)
  - B. What is the **observed** value when *height in centimeters is divided by weight in kilograms*?  
2.16 cm/kg (*Do not forget the units*)
  - C. Would you **SUPPORT** or **DISPROVE** the given hypothesis? (**Circle one**)

8. Miss Froggy's height is 110 cm . She weighs 22kg. (15pts)
- What is the expected value when *height in centimeters is divided by weight in kilograms*?  
5cm/kg (Do not forget the units)
  - What is the observed value when *height in centimeters is divided by weight in kilograms*?  
5cm/kg (Do not forget the units)
  - Would you **SUPPORT** or **DISPROVE** the given hypothesis? (**Circle one**)

A hypothesis is a statement that provides a possible answer to a question or an explanation for an observation that can be tested.

Using the hypothesis and data table below, complete questions 9- 12

**Hypothesis:** *Height in centimeters divided by weight in kilograms is EXPECTED to be 5 cm/kg.*

STUDENT	Height in cm	Weight in kg	Height/Weight = cm/kg	
			Expected	Observed
Mr. X	170 cm	64 kg	5cm/kg	2.66 cm/kg
Ms. Y	155 cm	75kg	5cm/kg	2.07cm/kg

9. According to the hypothesis what is the **expected** value when *height in centimeters is divided by weight in kilograms*? (10pts) 5cm/kg (Do not forget the units)
10. Is **observed** height in centimeters divided by weight in kilograms for Mr. X **5cm/kg** ? (10pts)  
**Yes OR No** (circle one)
11. What is the **observed** average relationship between height and weight (Hint: Find the average of the 2 numbers in the observed column) (10pts) 2.37 cm/kg
12. According to the data, would you **SUPPORT** or **DISPROVE** the hypothesis? (10pts) **Circle one**

**General Biology Lab (BIO 110L) Lab Report****LAB 2: METRIC MEASUREMENT & THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD****Total points:100**

The **Scientific Method** is a way of gaining information about the world by rigorous testing to determine if the proposed solutions are valid. An important part of the scientific method is forming a **hypothesis**. A hypothesis is a statement that provides a possible answer to a question or an explanation for an observation that can be tested.

**1. A given hypothesis states that height in cm divided by weight in kg is EXPECTED to be 5 cm/kg.**

Mr. Froggy's height is 180 cm. He weighs 90 kg. (3x5=15pts)

A. What is the **expected** value when *height in centimeters is divided by weight in kilograms*? 5cm/kgB. What is the **observed** value when *height in centimeters is divided by weight in kilograms*? 2cm/kgC. Would you **SUPPORT** or **DISPROVE** the given hypothesis? (**Circle One**)

Using the hypothesis and data table below, complete questions 2 - 4.

**Hypothesis:** *Height in centimeters divided by weight in kilograms is equal to 5 cm/kg.*

STUDENT	Height in cm	Weight in kg	Height/Weight = cm/kg	
			Expected	Observed
Mr. X	175 cm	74 kg	5cm/kg	2.36 cm/kg
Ms. Y	160 cm	70kg	5cm/kg	2.28 cm/kg

2. Is **observed** height in centimeters/ weight in kilograms = 5 cm/kg (5pts)**YES** or **NO** (**Circle One**)3. What is the **observed average** value when height/weight? (5pts) 2.32cm/kg4. Do your data **support** the hypothesis given? (5pts) **Yes** or **No** (**Circle One**)

5. What is the metric unit of measurement for temperature? (5pts)

a. Degrees Fahrenheit    **b. Degrees Celsius**    c. Either Fahrenheit or Celsius    d. Thermometer

6. The best choice among the given metric units to describe the distance between two cities is: (5pts)

a. Meters    b. Centimeters    **c. Kilometers**    d. Millimeters

Question 7 -9 ask you to use the information you have gained about metric system and make reasonable estimates about the quantities listed. Place a decimal point within the series of numbers so that the statements are reasonable. DO NOT FORGET THE UNITS!

7. Barry is 1545cm tall. (5pts) *Answer:* 154.5cm8. The ambulance sped by at 10,000 km per hour. (5pts) *Answer:* 100.00 km/hr9. The ballpoint pen weighs 99990 g. (5pts) *Answer:* 0.9999 g

10. What does each unit represent? (6x3=18pts)

- (a) mm = millimeter                      (b) m = meter                      (c) cm = centimeter  
(d) kg = kilogram                      (e) mL= milliliter                      (f) °C degrees Celsius

11. Choose the BEST **metric unit** for each. (9x3 =27pts)

- (a) The length of an eyelash: **mm** cm m km  
(b) The height of a flagpole: mm cm **m** km  
(c) Your mass: mg g **kg** lb  
(d) Mass of 10 pennies: mg **g** kg lb  
(e) Your height: ft km **cm** in  
(f) Dropperful of medicine : fl. oz L **mL** gal  
(g) Mass of an aspirin tablet: **mg** g kg lb  
(h) Mass of a bowling ball: mg g **kg** lb  
(i) Distance from earth to moon mi m **km** yd