

**BIO 110 L Prelab for**Name: William Johnson

LAB 2: Metric Measurement &amp; the Scientific Method Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**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)

1. The metric system is based on units of Ten
2. The modern metric system is called the International system of units
3. Metric unit of temperature is Degree Celsius
4. A hypothesis can be tested by doing an experiment
5. The experiment provides evidence to support or dispute 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) 67.6 kg (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/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)

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*?  
5cm/kg (Do not forget the units)
- C. 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.*

|         |              |              | Height/Weight = cm/kg |            |
|---------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|------------|
| STUDENT | Height in cm | Weight in kg | Expected              | Observed   |
| Mr. X   | 170 cm       | 64 kg        | 5cm/kg                | 2.66 cm/kg |
| Ms. Y   | 155 cm       | 75kg         | 5cm/kg                | 2.7 cm/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/kg 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*?  
5 cm/kg

B. What is the **observed** value when *height in centimeters is divided by weight in kilograms*? 2 cm/kg

C. 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.*

|         |              |              | Height/Weight = cm/kg |            |
|---------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|------------|
| STUDENT | Height in cm | Weight in 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) 2.36 cm/kg

4. 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: 154.5cm

8. The ambulance sped by at 10000 km per hour. (5pts) Answer: 100.00km per hour

9. The ballpoint pen weighs 99990 g. (5pts) Answer: 0.99990g

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

(a) mm = millimeter    (b) m = meter    (c) cm = centimeter

(d) kg = kilogram    (e) mL= millimeter    (f) °C degree 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