The Chemistry of…

Research Paper # 1

(**Total:** 100 points)

**Final Draft Due: Monday, Feb. 20th ­**(50 points)

For this assignment, you will research a chemistry-related topic that you find interesting and write an informative paper on the subject. Your paper will be titled “The Chemistry of… (whatever you choose to research) and will be a compilation of research from different scientific articles and journals.

Below are some examples of topics chosen by students in the past:

1. The Chemistry of Shampoo
2. The Chemistry of Body Odor
3. The Chemistry of Aspirin
4. The Chemistry of Digesting a Burger
5. The Chemistry of Farts
6. The Chemistry of a Refrigerator
7. The Chemistry of Starting a Car

…and many more!

Regardless of what topic you decide, your research MUST be from scholarly resources. This means no Wikipedia, or “.com” websites.

Your research must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. 2 books
2. 2 “scholarly journals”
3. 2-3 scholarly websites ( .edu or .org)

We will be spending some time in the library and in the computer lab doing research for your paper, so if you are not familiar with finding scholarly articles, or checking out books from the library, you will receive plenty of in-class guidance. **You must have at least 6 sources on your works cited page.**

Your paper must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. The paper must be in APA format. Therefore, your paper will include: **a)** a title page, **b)** an abstract, **c)** a main body, and **d)** a works cited page, all of which must be in APA format.
2. You must have a title page that includes your title, your name, and your school’s name.
   1. Title page due for peer edit: **Monday, Jan. 30th** (5 points)
3. Your must have an abstract. This is a short, one-paragraph summary of your paper. It appears on its own page and is titled “Abstract”.
   1. Abstract due for peer edit: **Friday, Feb. 3th** (10 points)
4. You must include an APA formatted works cited page at the end of your paper.
   1. Works cited page due for peer edit: **Monday, Feb. 6th** (15 points)
5. You must cite all information **IN YOUR PAPER** using APA format.
6. You must provide a detailed description of every molecule, compound, and/or elements that are involved in the chemical process you have chosen to research.
7. You must explain any chemical reactions involved in a detailed, step-by-step manner.
8. Your paper should be typed, 12-point font, Times New Roman, 1-inch margins, and double-spaced.
9. Your paper should contain interesting and fun facts about your chemical reactions and should be 3-5 pages in length **NOT INCLUDING YOUR TITLE PAGE, ABSTRACT OR WORKS CITE PAGE.**
   1. Complete rough draft due for peer editing: **Monday, Feb. 13th** (20 points)

Research Project Checklist

The Chemistry of : **Topic-Due January 27th**

**\_\_\_** Topic is appropriate and relatable to chemistry.

\_\_\_ Topic has been approved by instructor.

\*Instructor’s Initials: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5: **Title Page-Due January 30th**

**\_\_\_** Title page includes the name of the paper, my name, and my school’s name in the **center** of the page.

\_\_\_ Title page is in APA format (includes a “running head” and page number).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10: **Abstract-Due Feb. 3rd**

**\_\_\_** Abstract is a brief, one paragraph summary of the paper. It is informative and describes exactly what the research paper is about.

\_\_\_ Abstract is on its own page and is written in APA format (titled “Abstract”, page number, paragraph format).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15: **Works Cited Page-Due Feb. 6th**

**\_\_\_** Works cited page contains at least 6 sources.

\_\_\_ Works cited page is in APA format (titled “Works Cited”, page number, sources listed in alphabetical order, correct APA citation format).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/20: **Rough Draft-Due Feb. 13th**

**\_\_\_** Rough draft is at least 3 pages in length, not including title page, abstract, and works cited page.

\_\_\_ Rough draft is typed in 12-point, Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins and is double-spaced.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/50: **Final Draft-Due Feb. 20th**

**\_\_\_** Final draft is at least 3 pages in length, not including title page, abstract, and works cited page.

\_\_\_ All pages are numbered, typed in 12-point, Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, and double spaced.

\_\_\_ Any information is properly cited within the paper in correct APA format.

\_\_\_ Content of the paper is informative, interesting, and free of grammatical errors. See the rubric on the back of this paper for other guidelines.

Research Paper Rubric

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Beginning-Student has not met requirements**  **0-3 points** | **Developing-Student has somewhat met requirements.**  **4-6 points** | **Accomplished-Student has met requirements.**  **7-9 points** | **Exemplary-Student has gone over and above requirements.**  **10 points** | **Score** |
| Content | Content is lacking information and detail. | Content has some information, but is lacking detail. | Content is informative and detailed. | Content is highly informative, detailed. |  |
| Research | Little to no research. 0-2 sources. | Some research. 3-4 sources | Adequate research. 5-6 sources | Thorough research. 6 or more sources. |  |
| Format | Paper is not written in APA format. | Parts of paper are written in APA format. | Most of paper is written in APA format. | All of paper is written in APA format. |  |
| Grammar and Spelling | Paper is full of grammatical and spelling errors. | Paper has many grammatical and spelling errors. | Paper is mostly free of grammatical and spelling errors. | Paper has only 1-2 grammatical and spelling errors. |  |
| Originality | Information is mostly paraphrased from another source. | Information is somewhat paraphrased from another source. | Information is has been put into the writer’s own words. | Information has been put into the writer’s own words. Paper also contains some personal anecdotes of the writer. |  |