

Name _____

Scientific Explanation Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Claim	Makes an accurate and complete claim that addresses the testable question in 3 rd person.	Makes an accurate and complete claim that addresses the testable question.	Makes an accurate, but incomplete claim.	Makes an inaccurate claim or does not make a claim
Evidence	Selects the best evidence to support the claim.	Provides appropriate and sufficient evidence to support the claim. The data and or examples used as evidence are directly related to the claim.	Provides appropriate, but insufficient evidence to support the claim.	Evidence is not provided, or only provides inappropriate evidence (does not support the claim)
Reasoning	Provides reasoning that links evidence to the claim. Includes appropriate and sufficient scientific principles, along with current scientific knowledge that supports the claim.	Provides reasoning that links evidence to the claim. Includes appropriate and sufficient scientific principles	Provides reasoning that links the claim and evidence, but the amount of reasoning is insufficient.	No reasoning provided, or only provides reasoning that does not link evidence to the claim.
Written Communication	<p>The report shows clear evidence of use of the writing process and is in final draft form.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus is clearly stated and consistently referred to throughout the piece. • Consistently uses a variety of transitions effectively and is written in a logical sequence. • consistently uses a strong, formal, academic voice. • It contains few spelling and/or grammar errors. 	<p>The report shows evidence of use of the writing process and is in final draft form.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus is clearly stated and referred to throughout the piece. • Consistently uses transitions effectively and is written in a logical sequence. • consistently uses a formal, academic voice. • It contains some spelling and/or grammar errors, which do not detract from the meaning of the work. 	<p>The report shows some evidence of use of the writing process and is in final draft form.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus is unclear and/or is not referred to consistently throughout the piece. • Uses transitions and is written in a logical sequence. • Does not consistently use a formal, academic voice. • It contains some spelling and/or grammar errors, which detract from the clarity of ideas. 	<p>The report shows little evidence of use of the writing process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus is unclear and is not referred to throughout the piece. • Use of transitions is ineffective or work is not written in a logical sequence. • Does not use a formal, academic voice. • It contains many spelling and/or grammar errors, which significantly detract from the clarity of the written work.