

Making a Scientific Claim

9th Grade

Claim, evidence, reasoning — the structure every lab conclusion needs.

A scientific conclusion is not a summary of what you did. It is an argument.

CLAIM

1

A direct answer to the investigation question.

EVIDENCE

2

The specific data that supports it. Numbers, with units.

REASONING

3

The scientific principle linking the evidence to the claim.

LIMITATIONS

4

What could have affected the result, and what you would change.

WORKED

Claim: light increases growth rate.

Evidence: 6.2 cm in light vs 2.1 cm in shade over 14 days.

Reasoning: light drives photosynthesis, which produces glucose for growth.

'The experiment worked' is not a conclusion. Answer the question you set out to answer.