

The Big History of Our Planet: A Scientific Journey over 14 Billion Years of History

Marking Descriptors for Reports and Essays

Descriptors:

Contents are based on informativeness of the report/essay, accuracy of the information, whether the information is interesting, and insightfulness.

- 9-10 Rich contents. Thorough discussion. Insightful and interesting. Many individual ideas and clear evidence of critical thinking.
- 7-8 Useful contents and informative. Limited insights. Some evidence of careful but not critical analysis.
- 5-6 Information from various sources put together without critical assessment of validity or significance of information. No particular insights into issues.
- 3-4 Little effort to put together a good project. Evidence on a lack of understanding of the information or issue.
- 1-2 Failure. Information was merely copied. Clear evidence of plagiarism or lack of effort.

Quality of presentation includes writing style of the report/essay, organization, conciseness, and whether arguments are presented in a logical and coherent way.

- 9-10 A flawless report/essay, with evidence of good organization of points. Points are well articulated in a logical, coherent and concise manner.
- 7-8 A generally clear report/essay with clear flow of arguments. Organization of ideas is evident but not particularly smooth.
- 5-6 The report/essay has too many focuses, and the relationship among them is not well spelt out. Main points not clearly articulated. Arguments sometimes not directly to the point.
- 3-4 Generally a poor report/essay. The points are confusing, and organization of the report/essay is lacking. Sloppy argumentation.
- 1-2 A horrible report/essay with numerous mistakes and problems.