

Scientific Essay Template

C.Bystroff
BIOL 4961 Human Population, Spring 2018
1/3/2018

Guidelines

Green = Descriptive statements, including raw data, your own observations, and statements of any type that have each been cited and referenced in the bibliography.

Yellow = Interpretive statements. These include informal models (descriptive words), semi-formal models (descriptive equations, systems) and formal models (explicit equations, systems). These are your own ideas and words, not previously published or reported. Does not include predictions.

Red = Predictive statements. These include conditional and unconditional predictions and scenarios. Not previously published or reported. Predictive statements are regarded as hypotheses.

Purple = Active statements. These include proposed actions, value judgements. Active statements may be past or present. Past active statements may link past hypotheses to new data generation. Present active statements may be concluding remarks. Active statements that have been published or reported are Descriptive statements.

Essay Structure

Introductory paragraph

Green: Brief historical descriptions, interpretations, predictions and actions leading up to the thesis statement.

Red: hypothesis or predictive statement. This is the essay thesis statement. May be phrased as a question or as a statement.

Middle paragraphs

Green: Any number of published descriptive, interpretive, predictive or active statements.

Yellow: Your interpretation. Generally just one interpretation per paragraph.

Red [optional]: A new hypothesis based on your interpretation.

Concluding paragraph

Red: a new hypothesis based on the data and interpretations presented in the middle paragraphs. This may be a rephrasing or a coalescence of the hypotheses presented in the middle paragraphs.

Purple: A value judgement and/or a proposed new experiment or study. The value judgement may be phrased as a suggested law or regulation, a suggestion, a condemnation, or praise. A proposed new experiment or study should be something specific, not simply a call for "more study."

Citations

Use numbers in brackets [1] and number the references in the bibliography.

Bibliography

Use standard APA, Vancouver or Harvard reference format. You may use Mendeley, EndNote, or other software, or cut and paste pre-formatted references from Google Scholar. Example:

1. Cohen, M. N. (1977). Food crisis in prehistory: overpopulation and the origins of agriculture.