

## Part IV: Writing your “Results” Section

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This is where you present your data in a clear and concise manner. You will not make any conclusions or judgments as to what you perceive your data “says.” Do not include all of your data, necessarily, just a summary, including means, standard deviations, standard errors, and any statistical analyses that you performed.

If appropriate, put your data into tables and/or graphs. Graphs are generally used to show significant trends or patterns. Tables are useful for comparing moderate to large amounts of quantitative or repetitive data. If you do include a table or graph, you must also include a narrative text. (If you do include a graph, for example, you would write, “As seen in Figure 1, the percentage of zebra fish that survived over the 5 days of observation is 57. Four percent in the room temperature group, while the 32 °C group had a survival rate of 32.0 %.”)

### Grading the Results Section (obtained from the “Final Paper Rubric”)

1. *Clearly states an objective, narrative summary of data collected and qualitative observations.*
2. *Avoids common errors: listing off of data, overreliance on graphs and tables, interpretation of data, etc.*
3. *Tables and graphs come after text, but do not replace it. Graphs have titles, x and y axes are labeled appropriately, and a key/legend is present, if necessary. Tables are labeled, “Table 1,” “Table 2,” and graphs are labeled “Figure 1,” “Figure 2,” etc.*

Gubanich, A. A. (1998). *A student's guide to writing a scientific paper: How to survive the laboratory research report*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.