

Claim/Evidence/Reasoning Rubric

What's the Point of a CER?

- The whole point of CER is to **create an explanation** to a specific question
- A CER (Claim, Evidence, Reasoning) is a format for writing about science. It allows you to think about your data in an organized, thorough manner.
- DO NOT USE PRONOUNS!!! (I, you, we, our, mine...)

Claim

A Claim is a conclusion about a problem.

- Concise statement (1-2 sentences)
- Relates directly to the question and hypothesis
- Focuses on the most important features of the experiment or investigation
- This is where you make a statement about the question you are proving. You will state your idea, or take your side. This is straight to the point.

Evidence

Evidence is scientific data that is appropriate and sufficient to support the claim

- Clear connections to question and hypothesis

Reasoning

Reasoning is the justification that shows why the data counts as evidence to support the claim and includes appropriate scientific principles

- At least one paragraph describing each evidence provided
- Incorporates background knowledge, and makes connections to science concepts studied in class, to draw conclusions about experiment
- Take specific evidence and justify how that evidence connects to the claim

Format

Claim. Claim is because evidence 1, evidence 2, evidence 3 and evidence 4.” (Remember, you do not need to stop at only 4 pieces of evidence. Most cases, experiment’s or investigations require more than 4 pieces of evidence to prove and support your claim)

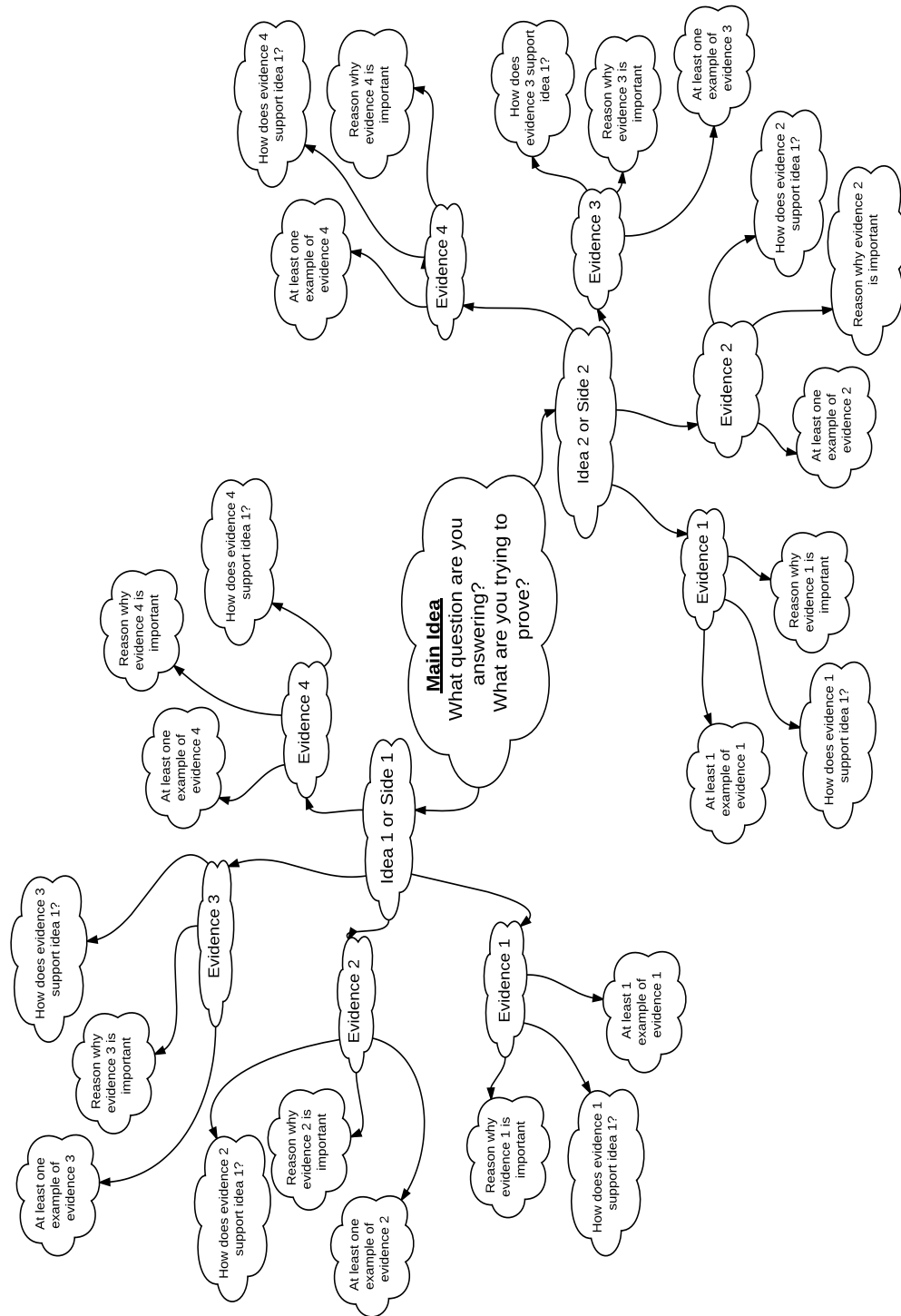
Write your Evidence 1. Describe evidence 1. Describe why evidence 1 is important. Provide examples of evidence 1. (You do not need to describe just 1 example). How does evidence 1 support your claim?

Write your Evidence 2. Describe evidence 2. Describe why evidence 2 is important. Provide examples of evidence 1. (You do not need to describe just 1 example). How does evidence 1 support your claim?

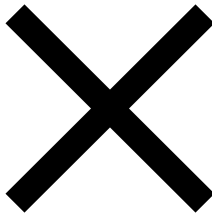
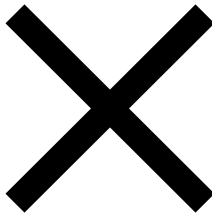
Write your Evidence 3. Describe evidence 3. Describe why evidence 3 is important. Provide examples of evidence 1. (You do not need to describe just 1 example). How does evidence 1 support your claim?

Write your Evidence 4. Describe evidence 4. Describe why evidence 4 is important. Provide examples of evidence 1. (You do not need to describe just 1 example). How does evidence 1 support your claim?

Conclusion: Restate your claim. “It is important because, why?” Then wrap up you idea and CER. What are you proving? Why did you prove it? How did you prove it? Why are you right?



Scientific Explanation Rubric

	Claim A statement or conclusion that answers the original question/problem.	Evidence Scientific data that supports the claim. The data needs to be appropriate and sufficient to support the claim.	Reasoning A justification that connects the evidence to the claim. It shows why the data counts as evidence by using appropriate and sufficient <i>scientific principles</i> .	Organization An organized explanation is clear, focused, logical and effective.
0	Does not make a claim.	Does not provide evidence.	Does not provide reasoning.	Has none of the items from level 3
1	Makes a vague or incomplete claim.	Makes a general statement regarding evidence, but does not include specific details or provides inappropriate or vague evidence, like “the data shows me it is true”	Does not explain how the evidence supports the claim (Attempts to explain evidence but does not link back to the claim)	Has one or two of the items from level 3
2	Makes a clear and complete claim.	Provides some of the expected pieces of evidence from the sources used (e.g. numbers, observations, quotes, etc.) in an appropriate manner.	Provides reasoning components for some of the evidence and explains how the evidence supports the claim.	Has three or four of the items from level 3
3	Makes a clear and complete claim using appropriate academic language	Provides all or most of the expected pieces of evidence from the sources used in an appropriate manner. .	Provides reasoning components for all of the evidence and explains how the evidence supports the claim.	Has four or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starts with claim • Has a conclusion • Logical flow: Reasoning logically matches with evidence • Has correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation (Correct tense and point of view) • Use of transitions (Finally, therefore, Initially, etc) • Written in a way that engages the reader
4		Provides all or most of the expected pieces of evidence from the sources used in an appropriate manner. AND Clearly uses sufficient evidence for a rebuttal that either clearly uses the evidence given for a rebuttal or provides new relevant and reliable evidence for a rebuttal	Provides reasoning components for all of the evidence and explains how the evidence supports the claim. AND Uses reasoning to justify why the rebuttal evidence is insufficient to disprove the claim.	
Total				

