

Chem 002 FS08 – Formal Report / Journal Abstract

Paper:

Kessler, Danny; Gase, Klaus; and Baldwin, Ian T. Field Experiments with Transformed Plants Reveal the Sense of Floral Scents. 2008. *Science* 321: 1200-1202.

Also please read the Perspectives article, which describes both this paper and related work in this field--good background information! [Raguso, Robert A. The “Invisible Hand” of Floral Chemistry 2008 *Science* 321: 1163-1164.]

You may use your textbook or other texts or on-line sources as reference material as you see fit. Just provide a list of **references (minimum 3)** at the end of your paper.

*******Copies are available electronically through the MS&T Curtis Laws Wilson Library*******
You may download personal copies from here.

How to Download:

1. In Merlin, select “Jrnl, Mag, Newspaper” and type in Science then click on Search.
2. Choose “Science” twice. In the middle of the page there is a link to the ejournal:
3. Link to web version: MST has: v.1(1880)-3(1882).
4. In the middle of the page, choose the link: <http://www.sciencemag.org/>
5. Choose the button for previous issues, then choose the August 29, 2008 edition.

DUE DATES: OCTOBER 20-23, 2008 (IN CLASS)

A 3-5 PAGE TYPED ABSTRACT (SUMMARY!) DISCUSSING THE ARTICLE.

******START NOW! THIS IS NOT SOMETHING THAT CAN BE DONE IN AN HOUR OR TWO***
ON THE EVENING BEFORE CLASS!!!**

How to Review an Article:

This is a challenging assignment. I suggest the following procedure:

1. **Read the Perspectives article. Peruse the article:** read only the abstract and the figure captions. Stop.
2. **Wait a day or two.** Now **read the article** from abstract straight through to conclusions, reviewing the Perspectives article if needed. Stop.
3. **Wait a day or two. Read the article again,** this time taking notes for your abstract. Stop.
4. **Write the abstract,** referring to the article if necessary. **DIRECT QUOTES MUST BE IN QUOTATION MARKS.** [But, too many quotes are not appropriate. It is best to paraphrase – *Put it in your own words.*]
5. **PROOFREAD YOUR ABSTRACT--THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO REASON FOR MISSPELLED WORDS OR ERRORS IN GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX.**

A Good Abstract Should Mention (but is not limited to) The Following*:

1. Introduction/background. (*Why is this important, “cutting edge” research?*)
2. What was proposed? (*Hypothesis to be tested?*)
3. How was it tested experimentally? [*Discuss all parts of each figure briefly, telling what was proven and how.*]
4. Conclusion. (*What does it mean and what might be done next?*)

***Note: You will be given a rubric with the breakdown of points prior to the paper being due. ☺**