IWS 1

Experimental plan for analyzing specific pollutants in water samples using modern analytical techniques

Deadline: January 3-9, 2025 (week 3)

Objective:

To identify and quantify specific pollutants in water samples using modern analytical techniques and establish their concentration levels for environmental assessment.

1. Introduction

- Provide background information on the importance of water quality monitoring.
- Highlight the key pollutants to be analyzed (e.g., heavy metals, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, or microplastics).
- State the purpose of the experiment and its significance for public health and environmental protection.

2. Materials and Equipment

- List required materials
- Outline analytical instruments to be used

3. Sampling protocol

- Define the location and timing for water sample collection
- Urban, industrial, and rural areas for variability
- Describe the collection procedure
- Outline storage and transportation procedures to maintain sample integrity

4. Sample preparation

- Detail pre-treatment steps
- Specify how samples will be spiked with standards for quality control

5. Analytical methods

- Describe the operating principles of each instrument
- Specify the parameters for analysis
- Explain calibration and validation procedures

6. Data analysis

- Describe how raw data will be processed
- Outline methods for determining pollutant concentrations (e.g., calibration curves)
- Mention how detection limits and uncertainty will be addressed

7. Quality control

• Include procedures to ensure data reliability

8. Expected outcomes

- List potential pollutants to be detected and their typical concentration ranges
- Discuss how results will inform water quality assessments and regulatory compliance

9. Reporting and documentation

- Explain the format for presenting findings (e.g., tables, charts, and reports)
- Mention how data will be archived for future reference

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT RUBRICATOR CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Experimental plan for analyzing specific pollutants in water samples using modern analytical techniques (15 points)

Criterion	"Very good"	"Good"	"Satisfactory"	"Unsatisfactory"
	13-15	10-12	5-9	0-4
Technical feasibility and	The experimental plan includes all			The experimental plan is incomplete or
	necessary steps. Modern analytical		necessary steps, but key elements such as	poorly organized, with significant gaps in
			sample preparation or data analysis are	essential steps. Analytical techniques are
	selected based on the nature of the		incomplete or unclear. The selection of	either inappropriately chosen, not aligned
			analytical techniques may be appropriate	with the pollutant's nature, or entirely
				absent. Details on equipment, materials,
	defined and aligned with the			and protocols are vague, incorrect, or
		protocols are provided but may		missing entirely.
		miss minor details or alignment	protocols are present but lack specificity or	
		with all objectives.	thoroughness.	
Rationale and justification	The choice of analytical methods	The choice of analytical	The choice of analytical methods is	The choice of analytical methods is
	is justified with scientific	methods is supported by	partially justified, with minimal	unjustified or lacks scientific reasoning
	reasoning, considering factors	reasonable scientific reasoning,	consideration of scientific reasoning. Few	entirely. Key factors, such as the
	such as the pollutant's chemical	addressing some relevant factors	factors, such as the pollutant's properties or	pollutant's chemical properties or
	properties, required sensitivity,	like the pollutant's chemical	required accuracy, are addressed, and the	required sensitivity, are ignored.
	and expected accuracy.	properties or required		Environmental and practical
	Environmental and practical	sensitivity. Environmental and	Environmental and practical considerations	considerations, such as cost-effectiveness
	considerations, such as cost-	practical considerations, such as	are mentioned briefly or are overly general.	or regulatory compliance, are missing or
		cost-effectiveness and resource		irrelevant.
		availability, are mentioned but		
	compliance, are clearly addressed.			
Innovation and problem-	Demonstrates originality or	The experimental design shows	The experimental design demonstrates	The experimental design lacks originality
	creative approaches in designing	some originality or creative	limited originality, relying primarily on	or creativity, using only conventional
			standard techniques without incorporating	approaches without any consideration for
		established techniques with		innovation. Challenges are ignored, or
		minor innovative elements.	Challenges are only partially identified,	those mentioned lack relevance, and no
	000		and proposed solutions are vague,	viable solutions or alternatives are
	(e.g., sample contamination,	identified, but the solutions or	impractical, or incomplete.	provided.
		alternatives provided are basic	1	μ
		or lack depth in addressing		
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