

Claim-Evidence-Reasoning Guidelines

C	Claim: a statement that answers the question or prompt. It does NOT include any explanation, reasoning, or evidence. Checklist: • Does the claim answer the question? • The claim should ONLY answer the question. Does the claim lack an explanation and/or reasoning? • Is the claim more than a “yes” or “no” answer? • Is the claim a complete sentence?
E	Evidence: the data used to support the claim. It can be numbers or descriptive, depending on the question. It should only use data that directly supports your claim. Checklist: • Is each piece of evidence relevant to the claim? • Is there enough evidence listed to support the claim? • Is each piece strictly an observation or data from information provided/learned? (No explanation or reasoning yet) • Is the evidence listed specific and not vague or a generalization?
R	Reasoning: the explanation of how and why the evidence supports the claim. It should include an explanation of the underlying scientific concept that produced the evidence or data. Checklist: • Is there a justification for how each piece of evidence supports the claim? • The reasoning should not simply repeat the evidence. Is there a link between the evidence and the claim provided? • Is the science principle explained for why the evidence supports the claim? • Is the reasoning written in complete sentences?