

TRADITIONAL TERM PAPER GRADING SHEET: EVALUATION CRITERIA

PART 1: DISCUSSION OF PHYSICAL CONCEPTS AND PHYSICAL PRINCIPLES

- ◇ The paper is extensive in its discussions of physical issues involved in the object.
- ◇ The paper frequently discusses physical issues involved in the object.
- ◇ The paper discusses physical issues involved in the object.
- ◇ The paper occasionally discusses physical issues involved in the object.
- ◇ The paper rarely discusses physical issues involved in the object.
- ◇ The paper never discusses physical issues involved in the object.

PART 2: PARTICULAR ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PAPER

- ◇ Well structured so that the reader has a good sense of where the paper is heading.
- ◇ Well written so that the paper is pleasant to read.
- ◇ Nicely packaged, enhancing the content without wasting words.
- ◇ Well thought out so that it appears complete and thorough.
- ◇ Degree-of-difficulty: your topic was especially difficult and your grade has been raised accordingly

PART 3: FLAWS IN THE PAPER

- ◇ Too much description (a small amount is fine).
- ◇ Too much historical perspective (a small amount is fine).
- ◇ Too much packaging (packaging is the condiment, not the meal).
- ◇ Too little attention to physics and physical issues of how the object works.
- ◇ Mistakes in the application or understanding of physical principles.
- ◇ Vague in the application of physical principles to the object.
- ◇ Too short (content substantially less than 5 pages).
- ◇ Too long (paper, excluding figures, substantially more than 5 pages).
- ◇ Mistakes in grammar and/or spelling significantly detract from the paper.
- ◇ Poorly written, making it difficult to read.
- ◇ The paper fails to give the reader a clear overall picture of what is being discussed.
- ◇ The paper has little or no structure and rambles.

PART 4: THE GRADE (Before deductions for lateness)

- ◇ A+ (93.3) An extensive, accurate, and comprehensive explanation of the physical principles that make the object work, nicely packaged in an unusually readable paper.
- ◇ A (90) A good, accurate, and comprehensive explanation of the physical principles that make the object work. Well structured and with very few flaws.
- ◇ A- (86.7) A good, accurate, and fairly thorough explanation of the physical principles that make the object work. Well structured and with few flaws.
- ◇ B+ (83.3) An accurate explanation of most of the physical principles that make the object work. Only minor flaws.
- ◇ B (80) A fairly accurate explanation of many of the physical principles that make the object work. Only minor flaws.
- ◇ B- (76.7) A fairly accurate explanation of some of the physical principles that make the object work. The paper includes some significant flaws.
- ◇ C+ (73.3) An adequate explanation of a few of the physical principles that make the object work. The paper includes some significant flaws.
- ◇ C (70) The paper largely avoids explaining the physical principles that make the object work and includes some significant flaws in any such attempts.
- ◇ C- (66.7) A paper that completely avoids explaining the physical principles that make the object work and is significantly flawed in general.
- ◇ D (60) A paper that completely avoids explaining the physical principles that make the object work and is extensively flawed in general.