

Practicing the Scientific Method & Lab Report Writing Using Graphic Organizers and a Movie

Goal: Students will view the movie *Awakenings*; they will take notes using the Graphic organizer attached. Teacher will then use this to address how to utilize a pre-planning sheet to guide their lab report writing.

Time needed:

- 1 class period to introduce the format of the graphic organizer.
- 3-5 class periods to watch the movie and fill in the required worksheet.
- 1 class period to debrief/discuss

Materials needed:

- One copy of the planning map worksheet per student (the one filled in identifying what goes to each area)
- One copy of the blank planning map worksheet per student
- Copyrighting rights to the Movie *Awakenings* starring Robin Williams

Notes to teacher:

The writing plan here can be used in two ways:

- For beginning writers, you can just require them to complete the graphic organizer.
- For more advanced students or intermediate writers you can require this worksheet as the pre-plan then ask the students to use it to write a lab report.

ANSWERS:

Dr. Sayer's Hypothesis: Administering L-Dopa to the comatose patients will have a positive effect on their level of awareness/arousal.

Independent Variable: The patients being given the L-Dopa

Dependent Variable: L-Dopa's impact on the patient's awareness

Materials:

1. A set of patients suffering from encephalitis
2. The drug L-Dopa

Procedures:

1. Dr. Sayer administered the L-Dopa to one patient initially
2. He started by putting a small amount of the drug into a drink that the test subject then had to drink.
3. He observed and recorded the results
4. He increased the dosage every time the patient showed no response, until he hit the maximum safe dosage to administer.

Data collection:

Here students should say that he collected data on the patient's level of awareness and response to stimuli.

Data Analysis:

Students should indicate what type of graph could be used to display the data. Since it is change over time, a line graph is most appropriate.

Conclusion:

Paragraph one: Hypothesis was not supported, while the patients did experience a short period of awareness and arousal, they eventually returned to their comatose state. (They can