**Internal Assessment Criteria**

**Personal Engagement**

The evidence of personal engagement with the exploration is clear with significant

 independent thinking, initiative, or insight.
 The justification given for choosing the research question and/or the topic under investigation

 demonstrates personal significance, interest, or curiosity.

 There is evidence of personal input and initiative in the designing, implementation or

 presentation of the investigation.

**Exploration**

The topic of the investigation is identified and a relevant focused research question is clearly

 described.

The background information provided for the investigation is entirely appropriate and relevant

 and enhances the understanding of the context of the investigation.

The methodology of the investigation is highly appropriate to address the research question

because it takes into consideration all, or nearly all, of the significant factors that may

influence the relevance, reliability and sufficiency of the collected data.

The report shows evidence of full awareness of the significant safety, ethical or

 environmental issues that are relevant to the methodology of the investigation.

**Analysis**

The report includes sufficient relevant quanititative and qualitative raw data that could

 support a detailed and valid conclusion to the research question.

Appropriate and sufficient data processing is carried out with the accuracy required to enable

a conclusion to the research question to be drawn that is fully consistent with the

experimental data.

The report shows evidence of full and appropriate consideration of the impact of

 measurement uncertaintiy on the analysis.

The processed data is correctly interpreted so that a completely valid and detailed conclusion

 to the research question can be deduced.

**Evaluation**

A detailed conclusion is described and justified which is entirely relevant to the research question and fully supported by the data presented.

A conclusion is correctly described and justified through relevant comparison to the accepted scientific context.

Strengths and weaknesses of the investigation, such as limitations of the data and sources of error, are discussed and provide evidence of a clear understanding of the methodological issues involved in establishing the conclusion.

The student has discussed realistic and relevant suggestions for improvement and extension of the investigation.

**Communication**

The presentation of the investigation is clear. Any errors do not hamper understanding of the

 focus, process and outcomes.

 The report is well structured and clear: the necessary information on focus, process and

 outcomes is present and presented in a coherent way.

The report is relevant and concise thereby facilitating a ready understanding of the

 focus, process and outcomes of the investigation.

 The use of subject-specific terminology and conventions is appropriate and correct. Any

 errors do not hamper understanding.

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