

How to Write a Scientific Explanation

A **scientific explanation** should*:

- Make a **claim** about the problem.
- Provide **evidence** for the claim.
- Provide **reasoning** that links the evidence to the claim.

Definitions:

Claim – An assertion or conclusion that answers the original question.

Evidence – Scientific data that supports the claim that must be appropriate and sufficient. Can come from an investigation or other source such as observations, reading material, archived data or other.

Reasoning – Justification that links the claim and the evidence. Shows why the data counts as evidence to support the claim, using appropriate scientific principles.

**Good scientific explanations will also use precise and accurate scientific language and should be written clearly so that anyone interested in the explanation can understand it.*