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Extra Help: Monday
Wednesday

Conceptual Chemistry

The goal of this course is to make chemistry interesting by showing you that it is part of your world rather than being confined to reagent bottles and test tubes in the classroom laboratory. This course will seek to increase your “consumer intelligence quotient” above that of the average consumer who, subconsciously, relies heavily on advertising and mass media for his or her information about consumer products.

Conceptual Chemistry will seek to illustrate, through the use of a series of hands on experiments, how chemistry can impact us in our daily lives. This semester long course will spend approximately two weeks each delving into the chemistry of: foods, food additives, over-the-counter drugs, petroleum, soap detergents and cosmetics, soil/fertilizers, textiles, color, beverages, and lastly water.

Rules:

- 1) Respect your teacher.
 - Do not talk while I am talking. This course is almost entirely hands on, which means I won't be doing much talking. When I do, it is important, and you need to pay attention.
 - Do not do work for other classes in my classroom. Choosing to not work on the assigned experiment will result in the loss of your participation grade.
 - Be prompt. Failure to be on time will result in the loss of your participation grade.
- 2) Respect your peers, and their personal belongings.
 - The same rule applies for when your peers are posing or answering questions: you are listening.
 - If it doesn't belong to you, don't touch it unless you get permission.
- 3) Respect the classroom environment.
 - Clean up after yourself. Class will not be dismissed until all trash is picked up.
 - If you have trash, wait until the period is over to dispose of it.
 - Many of the items we will be dealing with are dangerous, treat them as such.
 - No food is allowed in the classroom, as most of the surfaces in this classroom are contaminated with toxic substances.

Failure to follow any of the aforementioned rules will result in a loss of your participation points for the day.

Grading:

Tests:

Tests will be held periodically following the completion of a unit. The style of the test will be a blend of multiple choice, true/false, matching, free response and short answer questions. All tests are open notebook, so make sure you take good notes!

Labs:

Lab reports are the written extension of lab work which you will be doing every other day when lab meets. Lab manuals will be collected periodically, with the appropriate labs completed. Any additional material that needs to be added to a lab (i.e. graphs, lab reports, etc.) will be stapled to your lab. Every day a lab is late, it will lose 10% of the original maximum grade (usually 10-20 points).

Labs are to be worked on with your assigned laboratory partner, but completed by **you**.

If I collect labs that have *identical* answers, I will divide the score of that lab by the number of people who have the same answers.

For instance, Johnny, Susie and Timmy hand in a lab with duplicate answers. All of the work is done correctly, and thus the lab receives a 10 out of 10. However, since three people managed to achieve *word for word* responses, the grade in this case is divided by 3, earning Johnny, Susie and Timmy a 3.33 out of 10.

The labs you will be performing this year are very detailed in their procedures, since oftentimes you will be dealing with highly toxic and corrosive materials.

Prior to each lab I will give a detailed description of the lab you are about to perform, pointing out what steps you should take, and dangers to avoid. All of this information is provided in the written lab you will be in possession of.

Please pay attention during my explanation of the lab, and **read** the procedure of the lab.

If I am asked a question regarding the lab that I addressed during my explanation, or that is written within the lab itself, I will deduct a point from your lab **for each question** asked. You know how to read, please do so.

Point System:

Your overall grade is based upon three components:

- 1) Participation (attendance, punctuality, behavior, cleanliness)
- 2) Laboratory reports
- 3) Tests

Grades will be calculated as follows:

30% Participation

30% Laboratory reports

40% Tests/Quizzes

I will update your grades on a regular basis, and you may view them at www.mrlittlejohn.com/adobe/period1.pdf.

Final Note:

Please keep this handout in a safe place where you can find it and refer to it as need be.