



IJAS State Exposition Judging Rubric - 2026



PAPER SESSION - DESIGN PROJECT

Evidence of Design Process Skills (36 Potential Points)

		4	3	2	0	Points
1	Design Process Skills	Student exhibits a thorough understanding and application of the design process. The student has acquired design skills.	*Student exhibits a understanding of the design process. *Demonstrates minimal acquired design skills.	*Student exhibits little understanding or application of the design skills.	*Student exhibits no understanding or application of the design skills.	
2	Design Approach: Problem or Need	*Student has a well-defined problem or identified a real world need.	*Student has an adequately defined problem and or real world need and/or method was appropriate, but not both.	*Little evidence of a design problem or real world need.	*No evidence of a design problem or real world need.	
3	Design Approach: Performance Criteria	*Clear performance criteria have been developed to address the design features of the product to include algorithms, proof, and model	*Performance criteria was present but not fully developed.	*Performance criteria are poorly developed.	*Performance criteria were not developed.	
4	Design Approach: Preliminary Design Plan	*A block diagram, flowchart, or sketch were used to show design. *The plan shows all the parts or subsystems of the design and how all parts work together.	*A block diagram, flowchart, or sketch were not used to show design. *The plan does show all the parts or subsystems of the design and how all parts work together.	*A block diagram, flowchart, or sketch was present to show design, but the plan does not show all the parts or subsystems of the design and how all parts work together.	*No plan was present.	
5	Constructing and Testing the Design Prototype	*The student has constructed and tested a prototype of their best design.	*The student has constructed and tested a prototype of their best design. *The construction was not precise or testing was not thorough.	*The construction and testing were inadequate.	*The student did not construct a prototype.	
6	Redesign	*The student shows evidence that changes in design were made to better meet the performance criteria.	*The student shows some evidence that changes in design were made to better meet the performance criteria.	*The student shows evidence that changes in design were made but the changes appear to be illogical.	*The student does not show evidence that changes in design were made to better meet the performance criteria.	
7	Testing	*Student provides evidence of retesting after redesign.	*Student provides some evidence of retesting after redesign.	*Student provides inadequate evidence of retesting after redesign.	*Student provides no evidence of retesting after redesign.	
8	Validity of Evaluation/Conclusion	*The conclusion accurately reported the successes and failures of the original design, changes made, and how the redesign more closely met the performance criteria.	*The conclusion did not thoroughly address the success and failures of the preliminary design or how the redesign met the performance criteria.	*The conclusion did not address the success and failures of the preliminary design or how the redesign met the performance criteria.	*No conclusion was present.	
9	Originality	*Student demonstrated a novel approach or idea and was creative in their design.	*The student demonstrated some creativity and originality.	*The student demonstrated originality or creativity, but not both.	*The student did not demonstrate creativity or originality.	

Communication - Display (9 Potential Points)

		3	2	1	0	Points
10	Information	The digital presentation contains a complete explanation of the project. *The presentation includes graphics, charts, and/or pictures.	*The digital presentation has adequate information but is not thorough. *The display includes graphics, charts, and/or pictures.	*The digital presentation is missing pertinent information. *The display is missing graphics, charts, and/or pictures.	*The digital presentation is missing.	
11	Organization	*The digital presentation is organized and adds to the presentation.	*The digital presentation is somewhat organized and adds to the presentation.	*The digital presentation is not organized and is a distraction during the presentation.	*The digital presentation is missing.	
12	Artistic Qualities	*The digital presentation is neat and sparks interest in the subject matter. *It is evident that time was spent preparing the display.	*The digital presentation is neat but contains spelling or data errors. *It is evident that the student did not proof their display adequately.	*The student did not spend adequate time preparing the digital presentation	*The digital presentation is missing.	

Communication - Oral Presentation (12 Potential Points)

		3	2	1	0	Points
13	Presentation Quality	*The student concisely summarized their project. *He/She presented the findings clearly. * Information was relevant and pertinent.	*Student gave adequate information, but the presentation was hard to follow.	*Student did not provide enough information for judge to attain a clear picture of the experiment.	*The digital display was missing.	
14	Topic Knowledge	*Student exhibits a thorough understanding of their topic area.	*Student exhibits a sufficient understanding of their topic area.	*Student exhibits an insufficient understanding of their topic area.	*Student displays little to no topic knowledge.	
15	Speaking Skills and Eye Contact	*Student speaks fluently. *Student demonstrates excellent eye contact.	*Student speaks fluently most of the time. *Student demonstrates good eye contact.	*Student needs to work on speaking skills. *Student did not look at the judges while presenting their project.	*Student displays little to no eye contact when speaking.	
16	Interest and Respect	*Student demonstrates pride and interest in their work. *Student smiled and demonstrated respect for the judges answering questions fully.	*Student demonstrates some pride and some interest in their work. *Student did not smile but did demonstrate respect for the judges.	*Student did not appear to be enjoying their work. *Student did not smile or demonstrate respect the judges.	Student displays little to no interest in the project or respect toward the judge.	

Written Report (43 Potential Points)

		4	2	1	0	Points
17	Title Page			*Title page is clear and concise. Name(s), title, school, and grade are present	*Title page is missing.	
18	Table of Contents			*The table of contents is present but does not include pagination.	*The table of contents is incomplete or missing.	

19	Acknowledgements			*Student gives credit to those who helped with the project.	*Acknowledgements page is missing.	
20	Problem or Need	*Student has a well-defined problem or identified a real world need.	*Student has a fairly defined problem or identified a real world need.	*Student has an adequately defined problem and or real world need and/or method was appropriate, but not both.	*No evidence of a design problem or real world need.	
		10	8	4	2	Points
21	Background Research: In-Text Citations	*Background research is in-depth and the information is pertinent and supports the experiment. *Background research is correctly cited within the text following APA format.	*Background research is fairly in-depth and the information is pertinent and supports the experiment. *Background research is correctly cited within the text following APA format.	*Background research information is not adequate to support the experiment. *Background research is correctly cited within the text following APA format.	*Background research is not pertinent and in text citations are not in APA correct format.	
		4	3	2	1	Points
22	Design Plan		*Design plan is complete and easy to follow. Student included all parts and subsystems.	*Design plan is present, but .student did not include all parts.	*Design plan is present, but not complete or is confusing.	
23	Results of Testing	*Testing provided evidence that all parts and subsystems were considered.	*Testing provided evidence that most parts and subsystems were considered.	*Testing provided evidence that some parts and subsystems were considered.	*Parts and subsystems were not considered.	
24	Redesign		*Redesign was evident and thorough.	*Redesign was evident but one aspect missing.	*Redesign occurred but not all aspects were considered.	
25	Testing of Redesign		*Thorough testing was done on the redesign to evaluate its effectiveness.	*Testing was done on the redesign to evaluate its effectiveness. One aspect not considered.	*Some testing was done on the redesign to evaluate its effectiveness.	
26	Evaluation/Conclusion	*A concise evaluation and interpretation of the data and/or results.	*An evaluation and interpretation of the data and/or results.	*Conclusion is present, but does not reflect the data collected.		
27	Reference List	*Quality, quantity and variety of sources are present for topic. *Most sources are current. APA format was followed.	*Quality, quantity, and/or variety of sources are adequate. APA format was not followed.	*The quality, quantity, and/or variety of sources are less than adequate. APA format was not followed.		
28	Technical Aspects: Spelling and Grammar		*Good grammar and spelling are evident. Font size and type are appropriate.	*Three or more grammar or spelling errors were made. Font size and type are appropriate.	*Numerous grammar and spelling errors or font size and type were inappropriate.	
29	Technical Aspects: Header		*Heading is in the upper right hand corner includes last name and page number.	*Header is present but not in the correct location.	*No header is present.	
30	Neat and Orderly		*Report is neat and follows P & P Manual order as illustrated on left side of judging sheet.	*Report is neat and properly ordered but not both.	*Report is not neat or properly ordered.	

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