

## Biological Drawings: the Rules

When doing a biological diagram, follow these rules, unless otherwise directed:

1. Draw what you actually see, not what you think should be there.
2. Only one drawing per page.
3. Use plain, white, un-ruled paper.
4. Use a hard, sharpened pencil.
5. The drawing should be made by stippling (dots) to show contrast – no shading.
6. The drawing should be to the left of the midline of the page.
7. The drawing should be large; it should take up 1/2 to 2/3 of the length of the page.
8. A one-inch margin should be left on all four sides of the page.
9. All labels should be lined up in a column on the right side of the page. Labels should be written in blue or black ink and the lettering should be printed and horizontal. Labels should *not* be underline.
10. Lines to the labels should be drawn with a ruler, be parallel to one another (never cross), and be drawn in blue or black ink (same ink as labels). Label lines should *not* end in arrows or dots.
11. Title should be centered at the top of the page, while the diagram/drawing label should be centered underneath the diagram/drawing.
12. The title should be written with capital letters and underlined, should be printed in blue or black ink (same ink as labels and lines) and indicate what the viewer is looking at and include the common name, e.g., LUNGS OF A FETAL PIG.
13. The diagram/drawing label should be printed in blue or black ink (same ink as labels and lines) and include the scientific name, the view, and any magnification information should follow in parentheses, e.g., Sus scrofa, ventral view (1.5x).
14. Where possible, a scale is also given, underneath the drawing.
15. Name and date information is printed in the top, right corner of the page.