

IDENTIFY INDEPENDENT AND DEPENDENT VARIABLES (3 TIPS)

3 TIPS TO IDENTIFY IV AND DV

Tip 1: In the Title

The common structure of a title is: “The effect of <independent variable> on <dependent variable>.”

Thus, if the title of a lab is “The effect of climate change on the migratory patterns of ducks”, then...

Independent variable: climate change

Dependent variable: migratory patterns of duck

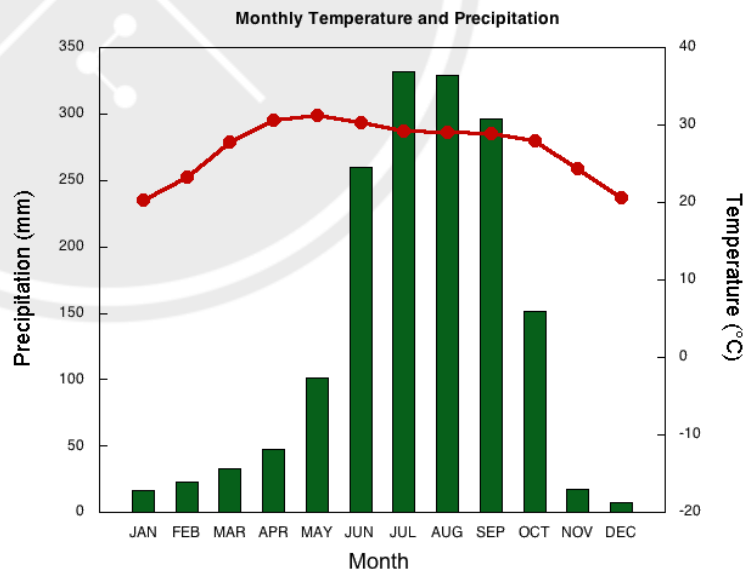
Tip 2: On the Graph

Graphs typically have the independent variable plot along the x-axis and the dependent variable on the y-axis.

Thus, consider the following graph:

The independent variable is Month

The dependent variables are Precipitation and Temperature.



Tip 3: In the Hypothesis

The common structure of a title is: “If <independent variable> changes, then <dependent variable> changes.”

If the hypothesis of a lab is “If the temperature of the liquid increases, then the time it takes salt to dissolve decreases.”

Independent variable: temperature of the liquid

Dependent variable: time it takes to dissolve salt