

AP BIOLOGY – PRESENTATION TIPS

GOAL:

The purpose of having students explain the PowerPoint presentations to the class is for the students to take a more active role in class lectures and to become skilled at explaining scientific concepts to others.

THINGS TO DO:

1. Explain terms and concepts in your own words.
2. Speak with passion and energy! Nobody wants to hear from a dry, boring presenter.
3. When there is a slide full of terms and the next slide contains a picture illustrating those terms, show the class the picture while you explain the words. If you read all the terms and then show the picture, students are less likely to be able to make the necessary connections. That also wastes valuable class time.
4. When discussing a concept that you learned about in Honors Biology, remind the class that they have should already know the information.
5. Make connections! Do your best to relate concepts back to the main themes in biology, such as surface area to volume ratio, lock-and-key fit, evolutionary fitness, structure-function relationship, levels of organization, etc.
6. You are allowed to ask questions to your audience. Try to ask questions like those that Mr. Zunick would ask. The best questions start with words like WHY, COMPARE AND CONTRAST, HOW COME, EXPLAIN, etc.
7. Split up your presentation evenly among the members of your group. Include other group members in your part presentation. Group members can help each other out by adding information or by clarifying topics.

THINGS NOT TO DO:

1. Do not simply read word-for-word from the slides. You have no idea how boring that is for your audience and teacher!
2. Do not cover the slides which seem irrelevant or pointless. They aren't worth the time!
3. Do not come to class unprepared. It is VERY obvious to the audience when you don't know what you are talking about!