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EE/RPPF

For use from May/November 2018

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Candidate personal code:

Extended essay - Reflections on planning and progress form

Candidate: This form is to be completed by the candidate during the course and completion of their EE. This document records reflections on your planning and progress, and the nature of your discussions with your supervisor. You must undertake three formal reflection sessions with your supervisor: The first formal reflection session should focus on your initial ideas and how you plan to undertake your research; the interim reflection session is once a significant amount of your research has been completed, and the final session will be in the form of a viva voce once you have completed and handed in your EE. This document acts as a record in supporting the authenticity of your work. The three reflections combined must amount to no more than 500 words.

The completion of this form is a mandatory requirement of the EE for first assessment May 2018. It must be submitted together with the completed EE for assessment under Criterion E.

Supervisor: You must have three reflection sessions with each candidate, one early on in the process, an interim meeting and then the final viva voce. Other check-in sessions are permitted but do not need to be recorded on this sheet. After each reflection session candidates must record their reflections and as the supervisor you must sign and date this form.

First reflection session

Candidate comments:

The idea of the extended essay really intrigued me as I get to do hands on research on any topic that fascinates me. Initially I found it a little difficult to come up with a topic that was both interesting to me as well as viable to conduct research on. While reading on various topics online after a very long time I came across the idea of magnetic levitation. To ensure that I can carry out this particular experiment I intend on doing mock trials. I feel like my topic can lead me to research a couple of different research questions. I'm excited as well as apprehensive to see if I can actually get a body to levitate as these things have been seen to be hard to conduct in the laboratory.

Date:

Supervisor initials:



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**Interim reflection**

Candidate comments:

My fears came true when trying to conduct my experiment I realised that my topic was not very viable and it would not work out. However I came across another topic which was very fascinating. I have researched quite a bit about magnetic braking and decided to conduct my experiment based on this. I have conducted a few mock trials and I ensured that the same thing as last time does not happen. I intend to complete my data collection over the next few days and begin writing my extended essay.

Date:

Supervisor initials:

Final reflection - Viva voce

Candidate comments:

Over the mid year break, I collected my data in the form of trials and conducted up to 35 trials. I was initially overwhelmed by the amount of readings that I had but once I devoted enough time to it and learnt how to organise my data I was successful in analysing it. After my initial setback with magnetic levitation, I was extremely happy that I got a linear relationship between terminal velocity by $\cos\theta$ ($V_t/\cos\theta$) and $\tan\theta$ as I had hypothesised. I was glad that I got the opportunity to conduct my own experiment and verify the linear relationship with secondary sources (research paper by Molina Bolivar). I regret the fact that I spent a while procrastinating and wrote a part of my essay a few days before the deadline. While going through my essay, I realised that I made a few mistakes and which could have been avoided. However, I found the extended essay to be an excellent learning opportunity and I found my love for learning and researching more about the topic that interested me. As the essay had to be focused, I was unable to research about the factors affecting the damping coefficient and I wish to explore this further in the coming future. I feel the method that I used was apt for my experiment but to obtain more accurate results I could have used the Tracker software. After my first draft, I hadn't found the relation I hoped to. However, after conducting more trials on my supervisor's suggestion, I managed to successfully answer my research question. The Extended Essay has prepared me to write research papers in the future.

Date:

Supervisor initials:

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Supervisor comments:

Supervisor: By submitting this candidate work for assessment, you are taking responsibility for its authenticity. No piece of candidate work should be uploaded/submitted to the e-Coursework system if its authenticity is in doubt or if contradictory comments are added to this form. If your text in the box below raises any doubt on the authenticity of the work, this component will not be assessed.

The student was very fascinated about magnetic levitation and was wanting to do her EE around this topic, she did spend a lot of time reading about it and watching videos regarding the same, some of which she has out on RRS. I had asked her to change her area of interest but at the same time I wanted to see if she could come up with something interesting. She happened to waste a lot of time but by the time she had to write her interim reflection she had to give up on magnetic levitation and choose something else. But her fascination for magnets continued and she chose to do something with magnetic braking which was interesting. She was finally able to state her RQ and she came up with a good plan. Her EE was loosely based on a research paper by Bolivar, Molina titled "A laboratory activity on the eddy current brake" which she has cited. She was able to devise an experimental setup from whatever apparatus was available in the laboratory, that was commendable. She could have done complete justice to the EE had she started early. In spite of all this she was able to find a value for the damping coefficient for different sets of magnets and find an relation between the number of magnets and the damping coefficients.



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