

Variables: Things that change

Independent Variable	Dependent Variable	Constants	Experimental Group	Control Group
* what is being tested * I change the independent variable * a cause	* what is being observed or measured * a response to change * an effect	* variable that can change, but is kept the same * if not kept the same, the experimental results could be incorrect	* a group getting the test * not in present in every experiment	* a group used to compare the experimental group with * not in present in every experiment

Example: Amy wants to find out if plants grow taller in red clay soil, rock, or potting soil.

IV: Types of planting materials (red clay, rock or potting soil)

DV: Height of plant

Constants: same type of plant, same water, same sunlight, same measurement procedure, same type of pot.

Experimental Group: red clay & rock

Control Group: potting soil

1. Jill wants to find out if a detergent with bleach makes her clothes fade quicker.

IV: _____

DV: _____

Constants: _____

2. Andy thinks that kids who study twenty minutes a night make better grades than kids who study an hour the night before a test.

IV: _____

DV: _____

Constants: _____

3. Pam plans to see if a nail rusts quicker in rain water, tap water or pure water.

IV: _____

DV: _____

Constants: _____