

LAB: Controlling Variables

Date _____

Last Name _____, First _____ per. ____

Are people better able to memorize a list of words in a quiet room or in a room where students are talking?

- I. **Hypothesis:** Write a complete sentence stating your hypothesis.

- II. **Procedure:** Design an experiment to test your hypothesis.

1. What are the variables that you need to control? Write a list below.

2. Find two classmates to compare your list with. Add the new variables they thought of to your list. Then share your ideas with the class.

3. Explain how you will control each variable.

- a. Number of people to be tested _____
 b. Setting: _____
 c. Type of talking : _____
 d. _____
 e. _____
 f. _____
 g. _____
 h. _____
 i. _____

Continue the list and write additional variables to be controlled in the space below.

III. **Data:** Answer the questions and then use a ruler to construct a table that you will use to record results.

- a. Describe the type of data to be collected _____
- b. How many columns will you need? _____
- c. How many rows will you need? _____

IV. **Analysis**

1. What can you do with the data to make sense of it?

V. **Conclusion:** Write a paragraph. Restate your hypothesis. Was it correct? How confident are you that your results could be repeated with a new set of variables?