Graph Preparation and Interpretation Questions:

1. What did we quantify – what did we measure or count?

(a)

(b)

2. Identify the dependent and independent variables by considering these questions:

 Does the (a)______
 depend on the (b)_____?

 Or does the (b)______
 depend on the (a)_____?

The independent variable is the _____, and the dependent variable ______. Typically, the independent variable is graphed on the *x*-axis, and the dependent variable is graphed on the *y*-axis.

3. Label the axes accordingly, adding appropriate units.

4. Choose an appropriate scale for each variable by considering the following:

What is the range of the (a)_____?

From ______ *to* ______.

After you find the range of this data, count how many graph squares are on the corresponding axis, and choose an appropriate scale for that axis. Scale: _______

What is the range of the (b)____?

From ______ *to* ______.

After you find the range of this data, count how many graph squares are on the corresponding axis, and choose an appropriate scale for that axis. Scale: _______

5. Plot your data points.

6. After you graph the data, answer the following questions:

What are the units of the slope? Express as a rate.

What is the meaning of the slope? Express in words.

)ratorium expl

Lori Lambertson Exploratorium Teacher Institute Page 1

© 2008 Exploratorium, all rights reserved

What is the slope of the line? _____

What is the y-intercept? _____

What is the meaning of the y-intercept? Express in words.

ratorium expl

Lori Lambertson Exploratorium Teacher Institute Page 2

@ 2008 Exploratorium, all rights reserved