

Name _____ Period _____

Rock Texture Observation

Purpose: To classify rocks according to their texture.

Research: You have completed the research on the texture of rocks. You should be able to answer the following question:

1. According to a geologist, what is meant by a rock's texture?

Hypothesis: Because we are only making observations, we will not need a hypothesis. We could have a hypothesis for this lab to explain how we classify the rocks.

Procedure: Follow the procedure below.

- When instructed, retrieve the materials from the back of the room with your table number on it.
- Examine each rock on your tray (obsidian, basalt, conglomerate, and granite). Use the hand lens to help.
- Determine the rocks texture. If it does not have any visible grains, put check mark on the blank following "No Visible Grains" and move on to the next sample.
- You may use your notes to help you.
- List the characteristics of each rock in the Analysis and Results section.

Analysis &

Results: In the space provided below, record your data about the lab.

2. Obsidian. (No Visible Grains _____)

Grain Size: _____

Grain Shape: _____

Grain Pattern: _____

3. Basalt. (No Visible Grains _____)

Grain Size: _____

Grain Shape: _____

Grain Pattern: _____

4. Conglomerate. (No Visible Grains _____)

Grain Size: _____

Grain Shape: _____

Grain Pattern: _____

5. Granite. (No Visible Grains _____)

Grain Size: _____

Grain Shape: _____

Grain Pattern: _____

Conclusion: Answer the following questions.

6. Which rock had no visible grains? _____

7. What caused this rock not to have any visible grains? _____

8. Why is color a bad way to classify a rock?

9. Is it possible for a scientist to determine the mineral composition of obsidian? Why or why not? _____

