BIOL 121 – Biology Foundations for Physiology
Instructions for Writing Assignment #1

This is the first of three writing assignments in the course. It is worth 25 points and must be submitted in class on Monday, September 9th. Late papers will not be accepted!

In class, you chose one of the elements found on the Periodic Table. Your assignment is to write a 1 – 2 page paper describing the significance of the element to the human body. Be sure to include at least all of the following:

- Is the element essential for proper functioning, or, alternatively, is it poisonous to the body? (Some will be both!!)
- Explain what the element does to the body and if there are certain organs/systems of the body it affects.
- Include what happens to the body if there is too much or too little of the element.
- Describe how the element enters the body.
- If there is a specific disease associated with the element, report on if/how the disease can be treated.

Your mini-paper must be typed, double-spaced, have margins no larger than one inch per side, and be in a font no larger than 12 point. Spelling and grammar count heavily toward your grade.

You may use an electronic source such as Wikipedia or WebMD, but you must also use a textbook, newspaper or magazine article, medical brochure, or other non-electronic form of information. Use proper citations to quote thoughts/ideas that are not your own. Papers that do not include citations will automatically receive a zero. If you have any questions about plagiarism, etc., contact me or the use LCC’s library resources.