

Unit 1: Scientific Process

Content Outline: Inquiry (1.2)- Part 1

- I. **Observations**- information that you gather using your senses
 - A. **Qualitative observations**- descriptions without numbers or measurements
(Ex. The flower smells sweet. Its stem is long and its leaves are smooth and green.)
 - B. **Quantitative observations**- descriptions involving numbers and measurements
(Ex. The flower bud is 2.7 cm in diameter and its leaves are 4.2 cm in length.)
- II. **Inferences**- explanation of your observations (Note: inferences are not always fact.)
(Ex. Your teacher gives lots of surprise quizzes. So, if your teacher walks into the room carrying a stack of paper, you may **infer** that the pages contain a quiz.)
- III. **Predictions**- using observations, inferences, and/or trends in data to predict what will happen in the future.
(Ex. Scientists predict the weather based on past experience and current information.)