**--- Lab 1 (Psychophysics) group report ---**

**NAMES:**

**PRE-TESTING QUESTIONS**

1. What experimental controls will you use to ensure the study is methodologically sound?
2. Taste the low sugar solution. How reliably do you expect you will be able to correctly discriminate between it and the plain water solution? Are there any reasons to expect individual differences?

**POST-TESTING QUESTIONS**

1. Create figures that contain ROC curves for both participants (see ROC curve materials from class). The figure should include both d’ values and Beta values. Print them and turn in with this sheet.
2. What methodological concerns do you have about absolute threshold testing? Think about how testing was conducted, who the participants were, the conditions of the experiment, etc.
3. To what extent were there individual differences in discrimination? What might these be caused by?
4. To what extent were there individual differences in criterion? Which taster had the more conservative Beta? What does this indicate about their pattern of guessing?
5. Based on what you know about neural coding for taste, how do you think the results would have differed if you had alternated sips of very salty water instead of the high-sugar water condition? Why?
6. Why is it necessary to incorporate information about false alarms (not just hits) into measures of discriminability?
7. What factors are influencing your responding, other than the actual stimulus? That is, why don’t you consistently respond “yes” when presented with the sugar water and consistently say “no” when presented with the plain water?
8. Speculate about some practical applications for assessing absolute thresholds and JNDs, and for using signal detection theory. How might these concepts be useful in the real world?