**Rubric for Student’s Evidence-Based Explanations**

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| **Criteria** | Not Yet | Approaches Expectations | Meets Expectations | Advanced |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| **1) Explains the Scenario:** Does my explanation explain the scenario using the concept of homeostasis? | Explanation does not explain the scenario or only describes *what* happened. | Explanation includes some of the relevant parts of the explanation to explain *how* the scenario happened, but does not include homeostasis. | Explanation connects all relevant components and relationships (observable and unobservable) to explain what *caused* the scenario using homeostasis. | Explanation includes the full causal story of the scenario including the concept of homeostasis as well as additional components and relationships that fit the scientific explanation. |
| **2) Fits with Evidence:** Does my explanation include the evidence? | Evidence is not correctly related to the explanation or not included. | Explanation correctly incorporates some of the evidence. | Explanation refers to a sufficient amount of relevant evidence to be compelling and justifies why it is evidence. | Explanation includes all of the evidence and correctly justifies why it is evidence. |
| **3) Builds on Science Ideas:** Does my explanation incorporate established scientific ideas? | Explanation does not include relevant science ideas from lecture. | Explanation includes some of the essential concepts to explain the scenario—but not all that are needed. | Explanation includes essential concepts needed to explain the scenario. | Explanation includes essential science concepts and other relevant science ideas. |
| **4) Clarity of Communication:** Would someone else be able to understand my explanation? | Explanation is not clearly written. | Explanation is somewhat clearly written. | Explanation is clearly written in a way that allows others to understand how and why the scenario happens. | Explanation is clearly written and additional communication or educational pieces are included for the audience. |