# Assignment Summary

For this assignment, you will conduct research to find opposing claims made about current scientific knowledge. Then, you will assess and compare the explanations that support these claims and their sources to determine which explanation is accurate and more reliable. Finally, you will write a paper that highlights the explanations and your evaluation of them.

Background Information

July 20, 1969, was a historic moment for the United States. On this day, astronaut Neil Armstrong climbed down from a lunar module, a type of spacecraft, to become the first man to walk on the moon. As he did so, he said these famous words: “That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” The moon landing was a controversial event then and is still controversial today. Some people believe that the historic moon landing never occurred. They claim that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) staged the whole event. Both sides, those who claim that the moon landing was a hoax and those who claim that it happened, use images and footage released by NASA to support their claims.

Materials

* Internet access
* Word-processing software

# Assignment Instructions

For this project, you are expected to submit the following:

1. Your completed paper

**Step 1: Prepare for the project.**

1. Read through the guide before you begin so you know the expectations for this project.
2. If anything is not clear to you, be sure to ask your teacher.

**Step 2: Conduct research on claims that the historic moon landing is untrue or is a hoax.**

1. Find a scientific explanation that has been used to support this way of thinking.
	1. List the source(s) of the information at the end of your paper.

**Step 3: Conduct research on claims that the historic moon landing is true and did occur.**

1. Find a scientific explanation that has been used to support this way of thinking.
	1. List the source(s) of the information at the end of your paper.

**Step 4: Write a paper to present your findings and compare** **the accuracy and reliability of the explanations that support each claim.**

1. Write a title for your paper. Make sure you use a title that tells readers what the paper is all about. Be sure that your name is also on your paper.
2. In the first paragraph, state the explanation that you found that supports the claim that the historic moon landing is a hoax. Include the basis for this explanation.
3. In the second paragraph, state the explanation that you found that supports the claim that the historic moon landing did occur. Include the basis of this explanation.
4. In the third paragraph, compare the accuracy of the scientific explanations and the reliability of their sources. In this paragraph, include a statement that informs the reader which explanation you think is accurate and reliable. Explain your choice.
5. List the sources you used at the end of your paper.

**Step 5: Evaluate your paper using this checklist.**

If you can check each box below, you are ready to submit your project.

* Does your paper have a title that tells readers what the paper is all about?
* Is your name on the paper?
* Does your paper consist of three paragraphs?
* Does your first paragraph state the explanation that supports the claim that the historic moon landing is a hoax? Does it include the basis of the explanation?
* Does your second paragraph state the explanation that supports the claim that the historic moon landing did occur? Does it include the basis of the explanation?
* Does your third paragraph compare the accuracy of the explanations and the reliability of their sources?
* Does your third paragraph include a statement that informs the reader which explanation you think is accurate and reliable? Does your third paragraph explain why you made this choice?
* Does your paper include a list of the resources you used?

**Step 6: Revise and submit your project.**

1. If you were unable to check off all the requirements on the checklist, go back and make sure that your paper is complete. Save your paper before submitting it.
2. Submit your paper through the Virtual Classroom.
3. Congratulations! You have completed your project.