

Name:

Period:

Date:

Vocabulary

Anomaly: something which cannot be explained by currently accepted scientific theories

Artifact: something observed in a scientific investigation or experiment that is not naturally present but occurs as a result of the preparative or investigative procedure

Baloney: foolish or deceptive talk; nonsense

Counter-argument: an argument or set of reasons put forward to oppose an idea or theory developed in another argument

Critics: a person who expresses an unfavorable opinion of something

Heretic: a free thinker

Incredulous: unwilling or unable to believe something

Pseudoscience: false science; a collection of beliefs or practices mistakenly regarded as being based on scientific method

Theory: a system of ideas intended to explain something, especially one based on general principles independent of the thing to be explained

Baloney Detection Kit Points: Summarize **each** point in one or two sentences:

1. How reliable is the source of the claim?
2. Does the source make similar claims?
3. Have the claims been verified by somebody else?
4. Does this fit with the way the world works?
5. Has anyone tried to disprove the claim?
6. Where does the preponderance of evidence point?
7. Is the claimant playing by the rules of science?
8. Is the claimant providing positive evidence?
9. Does the new theory account for as many phenomena as the old theory?
10. Are personal beliefs driving the claim?

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Where would you put The Golden Ratio?

Pseudoscience
Probably Not True

Science
Probably True



Mental
Telepathy

Multiple
Universes

Global
Warming

Evolution

Explain why you placed the Golden Ratio on the Science / Pseudoscience line.

Provide at least one counter-argument someone might use to try to convince you that you are wrong.

Defend your position about the Golden Ration (science or pseudoscience) against the counter-argument you raised.