

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?