

# I.10 Discussion questions

Look at the following scientific claim:

**The moon is made of green cheese.**

Look at the critical thinking lens on page 15.

1. Can you pick out two **Getting the Facts** questions?

① *When was it discovered? (That the moon was made of green cheese.)*

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② *Who discovered it? (That the moon was made of green cheese.)*

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2. Can you pick out two **Evaluating the Facts** questions?

① *What evidence supports it? (That the moon was made of green cheese.)*

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② *What evidence does not support it? (That the moon was made of green cheese.)*

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3. Based on the critical thinking lens, do you think that the moon is made of green cheese? Why or why not?

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*I do not think that the moon is made of green cheese. There has been no date in history (first "Getting the Facts" question) where the moon was discovered to be made of green cheese. Also there have been no scientists (second "Getting the Facts" question) that have shown that the moon is made of green cheese.*

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## NOTE:

*A "Getting the Facts" question may start with "Who" "What" "When" "Where" or "How." In this example, there are three "Getting the Facts" questions. 1- When was it discovered? 2- How was it discovered? 3- Who discovered it?*

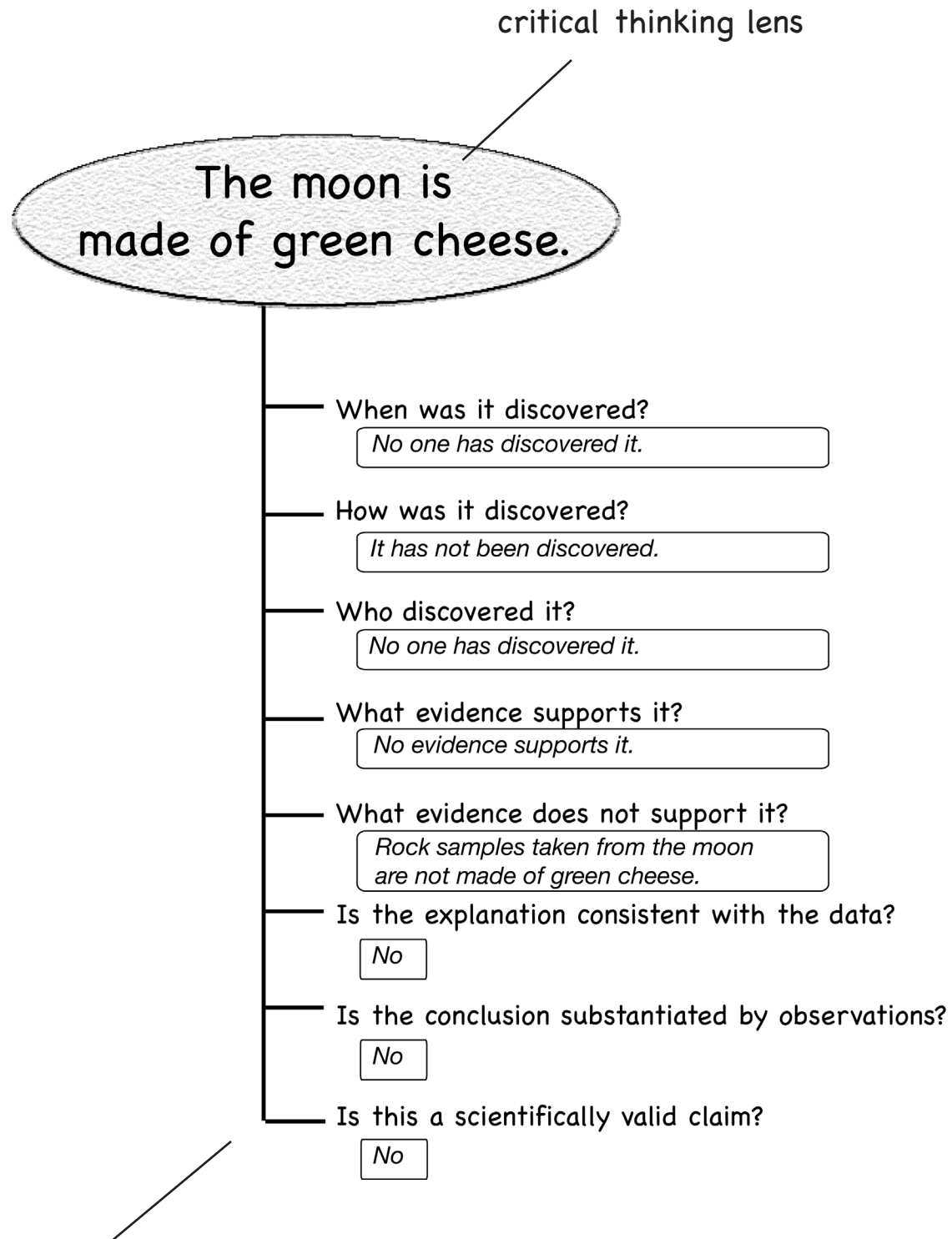
## NOTE:

*An "Evaluating the Facts" question asks are the facts relevant, or significant or support the conclusion? In this example there are two "Evaluating the Fact" questions. 1- What evidence supports it. 2- What evidence does not support it.*

4. Have you considered enough information to draw that conclusion? (Does your answer have depth and breadth?). If not, what other information should you consider?

*I believe I have enough information to conclude that the moon is not made of green cheese. I have read about the moon, and I am told that the lunar soil is made up of aluminum, calcium, magnesium etc., similar to rocks and minerals found on earth. I have checked the sources for these references and I find them reliable. I also know that cheese is an organic material that contains carbon and water and so the moon cannot be made of cheese since carbon and water in the form of organic material such as cheese has not been found on the moon.*

*However, in order to look into this claim more thoroughly, I would want to know what the author means by "green cheese." Perhaps I do not know what term the author is using for this question.*



These are the thinking tools (the questions) that, together, make the critical thinking lens.