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The Lunar Landing, Is It A Hoax?

During class time, we watched two videos about the lunar landing. One of the videos states and explains that the lunar landing was real by providing experiments and results to the viewers. Meanwhile, the other video contains conspiracy theories stating that the lunar landing is a hoax created by the government and NASA to get ahead in the space race with Russia. With the arguments from both sides, is the lunar landing real or a hoax?

Starting with the argument of lunar landing being a hoax. The conspiracy theorists mention that the lunar landing did not happen in the moon, since there are no craters in the actual lunar landing, which was different from what was represented in a drawing. They speculated that the lunar landing could have been filmed in a movie set or in Area 51. To support their argument, they mentioned that the film was extremely grainy, unable to show the actual location of the astronauts, where there is a possibility that NASA used this to hide details of the movie set, equipment, or film location. The possibility of the lunar landing being filmed in Area 51 is due to the secretive state of the place and the vast, sandy land which could replace and recreate the lunar surface. Also, the film looked unreal due to the absence of stars, which in theory, there should be more stars to be observed than here on earth, and the weird movements that seemed to have been filmed in earth's gravity. Another point to support their arguments is that the footprints were too clear and that the flag should not be waving on the moon. Apparently on the surface of the moon there is no moisture and it is also a vacuum, so both of the above should not have happened. Lastly, the space suit is not

suitable for radiation and the government may be hiding something. Looking at the materials from the space suit, the thin materials are not able to guard the astronauts from the heavy radiation in outer space, especially when the radiation was at their highest during that time. The government could be hiding something regarding the astronauts and have secretly staged the deaths of many astronauts.

The next video is the side that argues the lunar landing is real. Mythbusters performed a series of experiments and built models to prove that some of the arguments of the conspiracy theorists are unfounded. For example, debunking the gravity and vacuum theories from the conspiracy theorists. They ran both simulations of running in zero gravity and another with the support of equipment. They showed the viewers that the running movements done in the moon landing film was an easier form of walking in a place where the gravity is lower than the earth's. Then they performed experiments in a vacuum chamber for the flag waving theory and the footprint in regolith. Their experiments showed that it was possible for the flag to "wave" in a vacuum space, and that the regolith on the moon retains the shape of the footprints. The Mythbusters chose theories that can be proven wrong with their experiments, but there are also other theories that can never be explained, such as the government or NASA hiding information or staging deaths of astronauts. That is why conspiracy theories about the lunar landing still exist even after over 50 years.

In my case, although I do believe that the lunar landing might have happened, I am also very skeptical about some details of it. Although the mythbusters were able to prove a lot of the conspiracy theorists' arguments, I cannot rule out the possibility that there may actually be some details that NASA edited into the film. One of the things that pushes me to say so, is because NASA takes orders from the government and press. The lunar landing was supposed to be like an innovation and technology war against Russia, and they must have

wanted to make it as impactful as possible. But then, I do believe that the lunar landing did happen due to the equipment installed back then on the surface of the moon. Also, I believe there were people watching the astronauts board the rocket (is it a rocket?) and see it leave the earth's surface. Also, with technology back then, it would be really hard to know how to move in an environment where the gravity is lower than earth's. That is why I do believe that although there may be suspicious details, we did land on the moon back then.

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