45 MINUTES · TWO LEVELS: GUIDED AND INDEPENDENT

Suggested ages 14–18; the attribution extension suits confident readers.

A link is a starting point

Test a quotation, trace two publications to one document, and explain what the evidence does not establish.

Student sheet

A factual claim can be checked and can turn out to be wrong. A citation helps you find the evidence; it does not guarantee the claim is true. Ask whether the source supports this exact wording, and whether an apparent second source is independent.

Participation choices

You may work alone, write instead of speaking, or pass without giving a reason. Nobody represents an entire people. No personal account of violence is required. Disagreement is allowed; the task is to explain what the evidence supports.

Useful words

Factual claim

A statement about what happened or exists that can be tested against evidence.

Interpretation

An explanation of meaning, causes or significance; it needs reasons and evidence too.

Independent corroboration

Relevant evidence with a separate basis, not another publication copying the same account. Different political positions alone do not establish independence.

Attribution

Stating whose words or account you are reporting and how they reached you.

Source cards

A · A word in a transcript

Two short quotations from an English official transcript; the explanation is our paraphrase.

The published record of the 26 March 1979 ceremony attributes “No more war” to Begin within a longer sentence. Sadat uses “no more wars” elsewhere in the same record. Open the source and locate both speakers. The text lets us check wording and attribution; it does not measure public support or later outcomes.

Open the originals: Remarks at the Egyptian–Israeli treaty signing

In Begin’s remarks, search for “bereavement”. In Sadat’s remarks, search for “no more wars”.

B · Two websites, one treaty

Original learning paraphrase; not a quotation or an official translation.

The UN Treaty Series and Yale’s Avalon Project both publish the 1979 Egypt–Israel treaty. Compare Article VII: it sets a process for disputes over interpretation or application. The sites have different publishers, but this passage comes from the same underlying agreement. Useful copies do not become independent observations of what happened later.

Open the originals: Egypt–Israel Peace Treaty

Articles I–III, VII and IX; PDF pages 2–6.

Open the originals: A second publication of the same treaty

Treaty body, especially Article VII. The page has a misleading “1973” heading; the document itself is dated 26 March 1979.

C · Extension: who heard whom? Optional extension

Original learning paraphrase; not a quotation or an official translation.

A U.S. Embassy telegram of 1 December 1973 records Yariv’s account of a private conversation with Gamasy. It reports Gamasy expressing belief in Israel’s wish for peace, and later changing his decision about another meeting. The document is signed by U.S. ambassador Keating. It is not a transcript agreed by both generals.

Open the originals: U.S. Embassy telegram on the Kilometer 101 talks

Paragraph 3; signature “Keating”; source note 1.

Choose your route

Guided route

Use A and B. Find the speaker headings before reading. Complete: “The claim says __. The source says __. This supports / contradicts / does not establish the claim because __.” For B, put both website names above a single box labelled “1979 treaty”.

Independent route

Begin with the originals. Record the document creator, later publisher, event date and passage used. Do C as well. Find a factual claim on this site, follow its reference and write a bounded correction or confirmation; do not stop at the source’s headline or reputation.

Activities

1 · Judge the claim, not the website’s appearance

For each claim below choose: supported by this evidence; contradicted by it; or not established by it. Give a passage and one sentence explaining your verdict. “Not established” does not automatically mean false.

- A1. The transcript gives Begin the singular form in the phrase on card A.
- A2. In that phrase, the transcript gives Begin the plural form.
- A3. The speakers’ words prove that every Egyptian and Israeli supported the treaty.

Your evidence and reasoning

2 · Count evidence paths, not links

Draw the path from each website in B to the underlying document. Are these two independent reports that all later disputes were resolved? What can comparing the copies help verify? Name one different kind of record you would need to examine how a particular dispute was handled.

Your evidence and reasoning

3 · Keep the speaker in the sentence Optional extension

Using C, draw the chain from Gamasy to the document we read. Rewrite “The telegram proves exactly what Gamasy believed” so it says only what this evidence supports. Then ask what an independent Egyptian record might add, without assuming that it must agree.

Your evidence and reasoning

Exit ticket

Write: one claim I can support; the exact evidence; one thing I still cannot conclude; and the next source I would seek. You may use the supplied examples rather than personal or current traumatic material.

Open the originals

1. Remarks at the Egyptian–Israeli treaty signing
   https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/remarks-president-carter-president-anwar-al-sadat-egypt-and-prime-minister-menahem-begin

   The American Presidency Project, UC Santa Barbara; Public Papers of the Presidents · 1979-03-26
   In Begin’s remarks, search for “bereavement”. In Sadat’s remarks, search for “no more wars”.

2. Egypt–Israel Peace Treaty
   https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%201136/volume-1136-I-17813-English.pdf

   United Nations Treaty Series, vol. 1136, no. 17813 · 1979-03-26
   Articles I–III, VII and IX; PDF pages 2–6.

3. A second publication of the same treaty
   https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/isregypt.asp

   Avalon Project, Yale Law School · 1979-03-26
   Treaty body, especially Article VII. The page has a misleading “1973” heading; the document itself is dated 26 March 1979.

4. U.S. Embassy telegram on the Kilometer 101 talks
   https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1969-76v25/d368

   U.S. Department of State, Office of the Historian; FRUS 1969–1976, vol. XXV, document 368 · 1973-12-01
   Paragraph 3; signature “Keating”; source note 1.

Review status

New teaching materials. Suggested ages and timings are planning estimates. These kits have not been classroom-tested or reviewed by an educational body. The Hebrew, Arabic and English text was prepared with AI assistance; human language and educational review is still needed.