Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Debate topic: The U.S. Government should construct a military base on the surface of the moon

**PRO Argument 1: It would advance scientific knowledge**

Evidence or Example: Just bringing back a few moon rocks helped scientists discover all sorts of things about the moon. We could learn a lot more from a permanent base.

Supporting source: (A university or scientific website with information about moon rocks)

**PRO Argument 2: It would give us a strategic advantage over our enemies**

Evidence or Example: Space-based weapons are considered so powerful, they are outlawed by most countries.

Supporting source: (A government website that talks about space military weapons)

**PRO Argument 3: It would be an inspiring achievement that would give Americans pride**

Evidence or Example: America gained great honor through the moon landing – billions of people all over the world watched it and every American was proud that day.

Supporting source: (A news website that talks about the celebrations that occurred during the moon landing)

**CON Argument 1: The base would be too expensive**

Evidence or Example: The international space station cost billions of dollars, and that’s only in orbit, not all the way to the moon!

Supporting source: (A government website with information about the cost of the International Space Station)

**CON Argument 2: Construction in space is too dangerous**

Reasoning and/or example: Just launching regular rockets is dangerous. Getting them all the way to the moon, loaded with construction cargo, would risk the lives of the crew. Just look at what happened with Apollo 13.

Supporting source: (A website that that details everything that went wrong on Apollo 13)

**CON Argument 3: Other nations would dislike the U.S. for building the base**

Reasoning and/or example: It’s actually against international law to put military weapons in space!

Supporting source: (a link to the international treaty which forbids weapons in space)