

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Editorial Lens

**Directions:** Read the editorial passage. Then answer the questions that focus on **vocabulary use, tone, and meaning**.

Public trust in scientific research depends not only on discovery but also on transparency. When institutions delay releasing data, they risk appearing evasive, even if the hesitation is motivated by caution rather than concealment. Such practices can erode confidence, especially when policymakers rely on timely findings to guide decisions. Critics argue that selective disclosure undermines accountability, while supporters contend that premature publication may distort public understanding. Ultimately, restoring trust requires a balance between rigor and openness, not rhetorical assurances alone.

1. In the phrase **“appearing evasive,”** what does *evasive* most nearly mean as used in the passage?

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2. Which word in the passage most strongly suggests a **negative public perception** of institutions?

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3. The word **“undermines”** implies more than simply “weakens.” What additional idea does it convey in this context?

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4. How does the word **“contend”** affect the tone of the sentence describing supporters?

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5. Which word best signals the author’s **central concern** about communication with the public?

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6. Rewrite the phrase **“rhetorical assurances”** in more neutral language while keeping the meaning.

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