

FIELD BRIEFING

A claim is not a finding

A claim is not a finding.

Claim	What is being asserted?
Evidence	Which passage supports it?
Meaning	What follows—and what does not?

How do I use AI for research without manufacturing confidence?

AI can help organise questions, summarise source material and compare claims. It can also produce fluent statements with nonexistent references. A research workflow needs to separate discovery, evidence and interpretation.

Explanatory schematics and worked examples are illustrative. No live model, observed client results or measured market performance are presented.

Read the mechanism.

Start with a decision and a scope. “What is happening in AI?” is too broad to verify. “Which document-answering approaches should a small professional team trial?” creates a tractable question about features, data boundaries, support, cost and evaluation requirements.

Create a claim log before drafting the narrative. Each material statement needs an original source, a date, a precise passage or table, and a note about what it actually supports. Record the publication date separately from the date you accessed it. An accessible page may describe an old release.

Distinguish independent observations, vendor claims and your own calculations. A vendor demonstration is evidence of what the vendor presented, not independent confirmation of production reliability. A funding announcement says little about whether a tool solves your task. A repeated press-release sentence is still one source, even when several outlets repeat it.

For an invented product comparison, two sources appear to disagree about a document-page limit. Inspect the model version, interface, units and date before averaging or choosing one number. Both may be correct for different configurations. If the discrepancy cannot be resolved, preserve it in the conclusion.

Ask the assistant to work with a supplied evidence set and make source gaps explicit. Where tools can browse, verify that cited pages were actually retrieved and that the relevant passages support the claims. Structured citation support can help preserve locations, but it cannot establish independence or resolve a misleading source by itself.

Use an evidence-to-conclusion chain: observation, interpretation, decision implication. If the observation is that a provider offers a new feature, the interpretation may be that an additional pilot option exists. The implication is to test it against your criteria, not declare the market transformed.

Market-size forecasts require especially clear definitions and assumptions. Revenue, spending, users and addressable organisations are different quantities. This introductory guide does not invent a market forecast or rank providers without comparative evidence.

Technical references: Anthropic · Citations; Microsoft · Responsible AI; OWASP · Misinformation (2026). Links and source scope appear in the final section.

Try the idea.

INVENTED TEACHING EXAMPLE

Different interfaces explain an apparent conflict

Invented API documentation states a 100-page limit; invented desktop documentation states 25 pages. They describe different interfaces. Averaging the figures would misrepresent both. Record interface, release, date and source passage before drawing a conclusion. A promotional accuracy claim without methods remains unverified.

Go deeper.

A location is not a verdict

A citation can locate text while the claim remains misleading, outdated or outside the source's scope. Inspect the passage and distinguish vendor assertion from independently observed performance.

Conflicts carry information

Check release, interface, units and date before combining apparently conflicting numbers. A range or an unresolved statement may be more honest than a single invented consensus.

Keep the inference visible

Separate the observed fact, the interpretation and the decision implication. Preserve assumptions and unknowns so another reader can challenge the conclusion. This is an editorial method, not a validated scoring instrument.

Keep the evidence close.

Primary source

Original material supporting a claim, interpreted within its scope.

Interpretation

The meaning you infer from evidence; it is not the observation itself.

Independent evidence

Evidence produced separately from the interested party making a claim.

Uncertainty

A recorded limit, unresolved conflict or assumption that affects a conclusion.

Sources · accessed 4 October 2026

[Anthropic · Citations](#)

[Microsoft · Responsible AI](#)

[OWASP · Misinformation \(2026\)](#)

Technical and security references support the mechanisms, not our fictional results. KAF's worksheets and examples are original editorial recommendations. No current provider pricing, comparative ranking or legal compliance is asserted. Verify the exact release, configuration and policy for your use.

Practical AI Insights · First editorial edition · 4 October 2026

A claim is not a finding · [Web edition](#)