Roger Y. Tsien published an intriguing paper last year in which he put forward a hypothesis about how long term memories are stored in our brains.

For this assignment you will treat this paper as though it was a grant proposal and act as an anonymous peer reviewer. You are encouraged to read what others have written about the paper and even use similar arguments, but you must do so in your own words. Given that this is supposed to be an anonymous review, you should not cite what others have written in the text of your review. Please list your sources separately.

Your review should be a paragraph (400 ± 50 words) that highlights the strengths and weaknesses of the proposal. Keep in mind that a review would normally be given to the applicant and thus should be constructive criticism. The typical criteria for reviewing a grant are as follows:

a. **Significance.** Does this study address an important problem? If the aims are achieved, how will scientific knowledge or clinical practice be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventions that drive this field?

b. **Approach.** Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the PI acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?

c. **Innovation.** Is the project original and innovative? For example: Does it challenge existing paradigms or clinical practice or address an innovative hypothesis or critical barrier to progress in the field?

d. **Quality of the written document.** Is the document well written? Is there proper grammatical usage and no spelling mistakes? Have figures been used appropriately? Has the author made the best possible use of the space provided to them? Sometimes a panel might think that more details should have been provided, but this is only a valid criticism if there is space to add these extra details. That is, if the document is so well written that none of the existing text could be cut, and the authors have used all of the space provided, it's not reasonable to have expected them to put even more into the document.

**Q:** I am wondering if it is fine I find answers from wikipedia or book and copy from it in our assignment? Or it should be based on my writing knowledge?

**A:** It is critically important that you do not copy any text from any source. This is plagiarism and the University takes it extremely seriously. You might know that in 2011 the Dean of Medicine had to step down from his position because he plagiarized a speech. You must always use your own words in any piece of writing that you do. In those cases when words are taken directly from another source, they must be placed in "quotation marks" and the source must be cited. For this course, I can not think of a time when you should need to quote text directly. Accordingly, everything that you hand in to me should
be your own words. You are encouraged to use any resource that you find helpful, and you should be sure to cite the sources where you got the information. For the paper review assignment, you will probably find plenty of well-written explanations of the problems with the paper. I understand that it can be tempting to copy these words, since they will likely explain the problem very clearly. **Don't do this.** It would also not be appropriate to even quote them in quotation marks, since you are supposed to be writing this from the perspective of an anonymous peer reviewer who is seeing the paper for the first time.