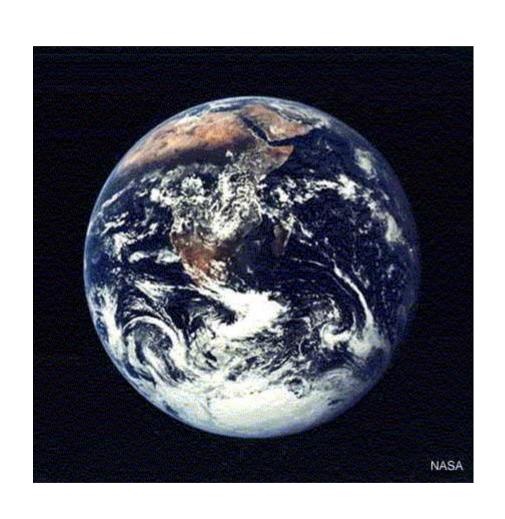
# SAS Honors Seminar 256: Extraterrestrial Life

10/13/2011

### Reading for Tuesday (10/18)

Bennett & Shostak 7.2, 7.4, 8.1-8.4 – life on Mars! Sheehan (2003) – an interesting interpretation of apparent features on Venus

### Response paper for Tuesday (10/18)



Explain whether and/or how you think that study of the other planets (and their satellites) in the solar system has improved, or can in the future improve, our understanding of our own world.

## Stylistic advice for response papers (I)

#### **Problem:**

Copernicus developed the heliocentric model. This was very important for the field of astronomy.

#### **Solution:**

Copernicus developed the heliocentric model. This advance was very important for the field of astronomy.

## Stylistic advice for response papers (II)

#### **Problem:**

As a future astronomer of Polish ancestry, Copernicus serves as something of a role model for me.

#### **Solution:**

As a future astronomer of Polish ancestry, I see Copernicus as something of a role model.

## Stylistic advice for response papers (III)

#### **Problem:**

Copernicus's work is qualitatively similar to modern theoretical astrophysicists.

#### **Solutions:**

Copernicus's work is qualitatively similar to that of modern theoretical astrophysicists.

Copernicus's work is qualitatively similar to modern theoretical astrophysicists'.

### Stylistic advice for response papers (IV)

#### **Problem:**

De revolutionibus orbium coelestium was an idea that revolutionized our understanding of science.

#### **Solutions:**

De revolutionibus orbium coelestium contained ideas that revolutionized our understanding of science.

De revolutionibus orbium coelestium was a book that revolutionized our understanding of science.

## Stylistic advice for response papers (V)

#### **Problem:**

As a scientist, Copernicus made substantial scientific contributions to our understanding of the cosmos.

#### **Solution:**

As a scientist, Copernicus made substantial intellectual contributions to our understanding of the cosmos.

## Stylistic advice for response papers (VI)

#### **Problem:**

Copernicus utilized his imagination to break free from the then-accepted Ptolemaic view of the solar system.

#### **Solution:**

Copernicus used his imagination to break free from the then-traditional Ptolemaic view of the solar system.

## Stylistic advice for response papers (VII)

#### **Problem:**

A scientist, if they seek to emulate Copernicus, should make sure their research has ambitious goals.

#### **Solution:**

A scientist, if (s)he seeks to emulate Copernicus, should make sure his or her research has ambitious goals.