

3 The solar wind

Reading

“The Exploration of the Earth’s magnetosphere,” by David Stern, section 18

Report

Write a 2-3 page report (typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins) on the scientific accomplishments of one of the following spacecraft:

- Pioneer 10
- Pioneer 11
- Voyager 1
- Voyager 2
- Ulysses
- Genesis

For the Pioneer and Voyager spacecraft, focus on their observations of the solar wind and the heliosphere, rather than their planetary visits, if you can.

As usual, you must quote your references. In addition to online sources (give the name of the page, the URL, and the date accessed), you must have at least one book reference from the ERAU library (give the title, author, publisher and date of publication).

Writing tips

If you quote a long passage (a paragraph, say), set it apart and use single spaces:

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.¹

Also, try to make most of the words your own. Stringing together lots of quotes does not look as if you put much thought into your writing. Finally, try to be specific. If you say “technologies will have to be perfected,” let the reader know which ones and why they are not perfect now. If you say “There will be another venture to the moon pretty soon,” state which country and when.

¹Declaration of Independence, 1776.