



Writing Assignment 3

EAPS 10000 Y01 *Planet Earth* Online Course

Spring 2014

January 16, 2014



January 16, 2014 – Writing Assignment 3: Writing Assignment 3 should include topics in Chapters 11 through 16 in the textbook. Except for the topics, the instructions for completing Writing Assignment 3 are the same as for Writing Assignment 1. See the **Due Dates** file (on the **Course Content** area of BB Learn) for due dates of all assignments. **Be sure to read the instructions in the WA 1 assignment. Please pay particular attention to the plagiarism discussion!**

Suggested topics for Writing Assignment 3:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Greenhouse gasses | Ozone hole |
| Acid rain | Global warming |
| Climate change | Clouds |
| Droughts | Floods |
| Blizzards | Air pollution |
| Atmospheric circulation | Coriolis effect |
| Thunderstorms | Weather hazards |
| Lightning | Tornadoes |
| Hurricanes | Hurricane Andrew |
| Hurricane Katrina | The Tri-State hurricane |
| The solar system | Earth's tilt |
| Jupiter's moons | Galileo |
| Copernicus | Keppler |
| Newton | Planetary impacts |
| Asteroids | Formation of the Moon |
| Olympus Mons | Life on Mars? |
| Water on Mars? | Comets |
| Atmosphere of Venus | Terrestrial and gaseous planets |
| Volcanoes of Io | Saturn's rings |
| Asteroid belt | Jupiter's great red spot |
| Measuring astronomical distances | Galaxies |
| Hertzsprung-Russell diagram | Life of a star |
| The big bang | Hubble red shift |

Suggested Topics and Example References (links) for WA 3:

Air pollution

Intro to six common air pollutants: <http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/>

List of topic resources on specific issues: <http://www.nrdc.org/air/>

Greenhouse gasses

Intro to greenhouse gases: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/gases.html>

Intro to the greenhouse effect: http://www.ucar.edu/learn/1_3_1.htm

Ozone hole

Intro to the ozone hole: <http://ozonewatch.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

Process of ozone depletion: <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/science/process.html>

Acid rain

Basics of acid rain: <http://www.epa.gov/acidrain/>

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/acidrain.html>

Global warming

Brief intro to causes of global warming: <http://climate.nasa.gov/causes/>

Frequently asked questions surrounding a changing climate:
<http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/wg1/ar4-wg1-faqs.pdf>

Climate change

Intro to the issues: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/>

<http://www.nrdc.org/globalwarming/>

Clouds

Cloud types: <http://eo.ucar.edu/webweather/cloud3.html>

Formation of clouds: http://www.atmosphere.mpg.de/enid/1_Clouds/-_Formation_of_clouds_t9.html

Droughts

NOAA drought info center: <http://www.drought.noaa.gov/>

NASA articles: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Features/DroughtFacts/>

Floods

Intro to floods: <http://www.ready.gov/floods>

Emergency preparedness: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/>

Blizzards

Basics: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/fgz/science/blizzard.php?wfo=fgz>

<http://www.weather.com/encyclopedia/winter/blizzard.html>

Atmospheric circulation

Basics: <http://www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cfjps/1400/circulation.html>

Three cell circulation: http://sparse.evac.ou.edu/q_and_a/air_circulation.htm

Coriolis effect

Brief description: <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/kits/currents/05currents1.html>

More technical and historical description:

<http://www.aos.princeton.edu/WWWPUBLIC/gkv/history/Persson98.pdf>

Thunderstorms

Basic in question and answer format:

http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/primer/tstorm/tst_basics.html

<http://weather.cod.edu/sirvatka/ts.html>

Weather hazards

Stats (see menu for more info): <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hazstats.shtml>

An intro to high impact meteorology: <http://severewx.atmos.uiuc.edu/>

Lightning

Basics: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/earth/how-lightning-works.html>

List of resources: <http://thunder.msfc.nasa.gov/>

Tornadoes

Basics: <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/edu/safety/tornadoguide.html>

FAQ: <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/>

Hurricanes

Brief intro: <http://eo.ucar.edu/webweather/hurricane2.html>

General overview (select presentations): <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/outreach/>

Hurricane Andrew

Historical report on Hurricane Andrew: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/1992andrew.html>

Effects of hurricane Andrew on wetlands:
<http://water.usgs.gov/nwsum/WSP2425/andrew.html>

Hurricane Katrina

Detailed report: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/special-reports/katrina.html>

Survivors' stories: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5704652>

US Air Force response: <http://www.afhra.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-070912-046.pdf>

The Tri-State hurricane

Intro (see links on left menu):
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/hurricane-timeline/>

Brief report: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/box/hurricane/hurricane1938.shtml>

The solar system

Variety of resources on the solar system: <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/index.cfm>

Some solar system basics including theories of formation:
<http://abyss.uoregon.edu/~js/ast121/lectures/lec24.html>

Earth's tilt

Effect of earth's tilt on seasons:
http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/ask_astro/answers/980211f.html

Basics: <http://astronomy.nmsu.edu/nicole/teaching/astr110/lectures/lecture07/slide04.html>

Jupiter's moons

Basics: <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/profile.cfm?Object=Jupiter&Display=Sats>

http://galileo.rice.edu/sci/observations/jupiter_satellites.html

Galileo

Brief account of Galileo's life: <http://math.berkeley.edu/~robin/Galileo/life.html>

Account with more detail: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/galileo/>

Copernicus

Brief account of Galileo's life:

<http://physics.gmu.edu/~jevans/astr103/CourseNotes/ECText/Bios/copernic.htm>

Account with more detail: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/copernicus/>

Kepler

Several resources: <http://kepler.nasa.gov/Mission/JohannesKepler/>

Detailed bio: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/kepler/>

Newton

Timeline of Isaac Newton: <http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/ufhatch/pages/13-NDFE/newton/05-newton-timeline-m.htm>

Detailed bio: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/newton/>

Planetary impacts

Basics: <http://www.psi.edu/explorecraters/background.htm>

More detail:

http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/shaping_the_planets/impact_cratering.shtml

Comets, meteorites, asteroids, and impacts:

<http://www.uni.edu/morgans/astro/course/Notes/section4/new22.html>

Asteroids

List/links of resources: <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/profile.cfm?Object=Asteroids>

<http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/planets/asteroidpage.html>

Comets, meteorites, asteroids, and impacts:

<http://www.uni.edu/morgans/astro/course/Notes/section4/new22.html>

Formation of the Moon

Discussion on the various theories of moon formation:

<http://cloe.boulder.swri.edu/aboutTheMoon/alternateTheories.html>

A NASA scientist explains the leading theory of lunar formation:

<http://lunarscience.nasa.gov/articles/nasa-scientist-jen-heldmann-describes-how-the-earths-moon-was-formed/>

Olympus Mons

Brief intro: <http://marsprogram.jpl.nasa.gov/gallery/atlas/olympus-mons.html>

Brief discussion on Martian volcanism:

http://www.geology.sdsu.edu/how_volcanoes_work/mars.html

Life on Mars?

Brief discussion on the possibility of life on Mars:

<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/publications/slidesets/marslife/>

Does the presence of methane mean life on Mars?:

http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/mars/news/marsmethane.html

Water on Mars?

Recent update on the quest for water on Mars:

http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/MRO/news/mro20110804.html

More recent update:

http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2011/08dec_slamdunk/

Comets

Comets, meteorites, asteroids, and impacts:

<http://www.uni.edu/morgans/astro/course/Notes/section4/new22.html>

Intro to comets: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comet>

Atmosphere of Venus

Intro: <http://burro.astr.cwru.edu/stu/advanced/venus.html>

More detailed basics of Venus' atmosphere: <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/HBase/Solar/venusenv.html>

Venus/Earth facts comparison: <http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/factsheet/venusfact.html>

Terrestrial and gaseous planets

Basics of solar system and outer planets:

<http://lasp.colorado.edu/education/outerplanets/giantplanets.php>

Basics of terrestrial planets:

<http://lasp.colorado.edu/~bagenal/1010/SESSIONS/12.PlanetGeology.html>

Volcanoes of Io

NASA's description: http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/1999/ast04oct99_1/

Intro: http://csep10.phys.utk.edu/astr161/lect/jovian_moons/io.html

Saturn's rings

Brief intro: <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/profile.cfm?Object=Saturn&Display=Rings>

Uncertainties: http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2002/12feb_rings/

Basics: <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/science/index.cfm?SciencePageID=55>

Asteroid belt

Asteroids: <http://burro.astr.cwru.edu/stu/asteroid.html>

Brief intro: http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/solar_system_level2/asteroids.html

Basics: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asteroid_belt

Jupiter's great red spot

Intro: <http://csep10.phys.utk.edu/astr161/lect/jupiter/redspot.html>

Explained: <http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap110502.html>

Jupiter's atmosphere:

http://cde.nwc.edu/SCI2108/course_documents/solar_system/outergasplanets/jupiter/atmosphere/atmosphere.htm

Measuring astronomical distances

26 methods for measuring out-of-solar-system distances:

<http://www.astro.ucla.edu/~wright/distance.htm>

The cosmic distance scale: <http://heasarc.nasa.gov/docs/cosmic/>

Galaxies

Intro: <http://science.nasa.gov/astrophysics/focus-areas/what-are-galaxies/>

Types: http://www.damtp.cam.ac.uk/research/gr/public/gal_home.html

Images: http://www.noao.edu/image_gallery/galaxies.html

Hertzsprung-Russell diagram

Intro: <http://zebu.uoregon.edu/~soper/Stars/hrdiagram.html>

<http://casswww.ucsd.edu/archive/public/tutorial/HR.html>

Life of a star

Basics: http://map.gsfc.nasa.gov/universe/rel_stars.html

Stella evolution intro: <http://science.nasa.gov/astrophysics/focus-areas/how-do-stars-form-and-evolve/>

News and images: <http://hubblesite.org/search/?query=star+life&x=0&y=0>

The big bang

Brief intro: <http://www.exploratorium.edu/origins/cern/ideas/bang.html>

Intro: <http://www.umich.edu/~gs265/bigbang.htm>

Basics: <http://cmb.physics.wisc.edu/tutorial/bigbang.html>

Hubble red shift

Brief intro: <http://www.exploratorium.edu/hubble/tools/doppler.html>

Basics to calculation details:

ftp://io.cc.gettysburg.edu/pub/clea_products/manuals/Hubbl_sm.pdf