Constructing a Response

Directions: Read “The Day We Sent a Message to Aliens” and complete the activity on page 27. Then follow the steps below to write a response to the question on page 27.

→ See Scope’s “How to Answer a Constructed-Response Question” for tips and information about how to complete this activity.

Question from page 27:
Why is the Voyager mission significant?

Step 1: Write your claim.

Complete the sentences below to write your claim in response to the question.

The Voyager mission is significant because
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Step 2: Provide text evidence with commentary.

Write two details from the article that support your claim. You can write them in the form of direct quotations or paraphrases. Include a citation for each detail. Explain how each detail supports your claim.

Detail 1:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
Sentence explaining how this detail supports my claim:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Detail 2:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
Sentence explaining how this detail supports my claim:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
Step 3: Write a conclusion.

Wrap it all up. End your paragraph with a strong sentence that will give your readers something to think about. One option is to refer to your central claim. Or come up with an idea of your own!

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Now it’s time to put it all together. And guess what? You’ve already done the hardest part! All that’s left is to take what you just wrote and put it together into one flowing paragraph. Write your final response on a separate sheet of paper.

Remember to:

• Use transitions between sentences.
• Read your paragraph to make sure your ideas are clear. Revise as needed.
• When you are satisfied with your paragraph, read it again to make sure there are no spelling or punctuation mistakes.