Sir Herbert Butterfield (1900 - 1979) was a historian at Cambridge University. In his essay, “The Conservatism of Copernicus”, he writes the following:

[Copernicus’s] own theory was only a modified form of the Ptolemaic system - assuming the same celestial machinery, but with one or two of the wheels interchanged through the transposition of the roles of the Earth and the Sun ... Once we have discovered the real character of Copernican thinking, we can hardly help recognising the fact that the real scientific revolution was still to come.

Your task is to explain exactly what Butterfield meant by these statements.

Requirements for a good assignment

- The assignment must be completely original work. The assignment will be graded strictly, as expected for a university-level course. Points will be removed for poor grammar or spelling. The assignment is graded out of 30 points.
- At the top of your paper: have your name, SID, an assignment number or title, and a word count. Unless otherwise stated, use question-and-answer format when writing your assignment, do NOT hand in a run-on paragraph.
- Be typed, double-spaced, and two-sided. Assignments longer than the word limit will receive zero credit. If a diagram is required, it must be neatly drawn (use rulers, compasses) and completely labelled.
- Use quotations only to illustrate your point, not to make it. If you are unclear about this requirement, then speak with the instructor.
- Show completeness of information, conciseness of expression, have a logical development of ideas, and evidence of thought regarding the content.
- Be professional of presentation, e.g., no ragged ends, creases, or ink blobs on the paper.
- If you reference any written sources at all, then you must give a bibliographic entry.
- In all ways, the author should show pride in his/her work.