

Write an essay in which you argue whether a particular type of modern technology (e.g., social media, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, robotics, etc.) is generally more beneficial or more detrimental for society and/or the environment.

Additional Requirements:

- Use a narrative hook to start your essay. You have three options here: 1) describe a scene from a popular work of science fiction (the way Nicholas Carr does in “Is Google Making Us Stupid?”), 2) tell a story from your life, or 3) describe a hypothetical scene that helps illustrate your main point. Just make sure whichever way you choose helps illustrate the main point you are going to make.
- After your narrative hook (see above), transition into a clear, direct thesis that states the main point of your argument in as precise of terms as possible.
- Include a section, at least one full paragraph, that identifies and explains and responds to a strong counterargument (i.e., one of your opponents’ strongest positions). A common place for this is after you have made all your main points, but before the conclusion paragraph.
- Use at least two credible sources to help support your position. The stronger your sources, the more effectively you explain them, the better the development portion of your grade will be. Use the C.R.A.A.P. credibility test to make sure your sources are suitable.
- Apply what we learned about ethos, pathos, and logos in your essay. Your essay may use one of these rhetorical appeals more than the others, so it doesn’t have to be perfectly balanced between the three, but I want to see evidence in the text that you were trying to use all three in some fashion.

Outline:

Introduction

a. Hook

b. Thesis

II. Evidence 1

III. Evidence 2

IV. Counterargument

V. Conclusion