

Collection of Evidence 3

Performance Assessments to Verify Credit in Writing

Achievement Level: Pass/Advanced

This collection of student writing should be used in conjunction with the VDOE-provided annotation and the *Performance Level Descriptors (2017)* to evaluate collections of evidence and determine if a verified credit in writing is to be awarded.

PBA #1

Technology is destroying our world. Fifty years ago everyone had to communicate face-to-face with each other. Today, people communicate with one another through a screen. Has the limitation of human contact due to the use of technology had positive or negative effects on people's lives? The decrease of social interaction due to electronics has had a negative impact for the following reasons: cyberbullying frequently occurs, relationships grow distant, and technology is becoming more dangerous.

Cyberbullying has become a major problem in today's society. According to "Guide to Cyberbullying Awareness," approximately "1 in 3 students experience bullying through the academic year." In today's world it is easier to hide behind a screen than ever before. Individuals are too scared to say anything to someone's face, so they do it behind a screen. Consequently, it has become very easy to bully others online. This is just one negative effect of the advance in technology.

Technology has caused relationships to grow distant. According to Katherine Bindley, "We're seeing very, very young children being given these devices to soothe them and to entertain them, and it's displacing the connection with the parent." Humans easily become addicted to cellular devices, and it is hurting families. Individuals do not realize how precious time is. They are losing time with their relatives because their nose is absorbed in social media on the internet. One day some family members will not be here, and society will wish they would have spent more time with their loved ones and not on a phone.

Face-to-face conversations are becoming a thing of the past. According to Katherine Bindley's article, child psychologist Melissa Ortega said, "Conversation takes practice, and a dependence on devices can make it that much harder for children who are already struggling socially." Children who are already shy are only continuing to become even more reserved. They are not learning social skills and are staying very timid. If children do not learn to converse with others, then they will be struggling tremendously as teens. For example, Lockie is a seventeen-year-old girl who is very shy; consequently, she developed social anxiety and is having a hard time finding a part-time job. If Lockie would have had more face-to-face conversations, then she would not be having the problems she is today.

Works Cited

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Analytical Essay

The dangers technology poses to society is a recurring theme found in literature. Ray Bradbury's "There Will Come Soft Rains" was written five years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It is about a world that has been destroyed by nuclear weapons. The house in this short story is still trying to survive and go on about its normal life, but there is no one living in it. Michael Griffin's "The Dangers of Modern Technology" is an article focusing on how technology is becoming more dangerous and his own parents were victims of technology. Ray Bradbury's "There Will Come Soft Rains" and Michael Griffin's "The Danger Of Modern Technology" differ greatly when it comes to points of view and figurative language; however, the two pieces were written for similar purposes.

These two pieces were written in different points of view. Ray Bradbury's "There Will Come Soft Rains" is written in third-person objective point of view. This means that the narrator describes what is happening to the characters in the story and does not show anyone else's thoughts or feelings. Pronouns that illustrate this are it and the. For example Bradbury wrote, "The dog frothed at the mouth, lying at the door, sniffing, its eyes turned to fire. On the other hand, Michael Griffin's "The Dangers of Modern Technology" article is written in first person point of view. Pronouns that illustrate he wrote in first person are me, my, and I. He says, "Even as I type this article in my local Starbucks (typical, I know) the security service that I have on my computer informs me that the Starbucks Wi-Fi network is "open" and I am at risk." He tells his own story and talks about his own personal experience with the dangers of technology.

While Ray Bradbury's piece is filled with figurative language, Michael Griffin's is not. Bradbury said, "In the kitchen the breakfast stove gave a hissing sigh." This is an example of personification. Although Bradbury used a lot of personification, he also uses alliteration in his poem, he says "Not one would mind, neither bird nor tree, if mankind perished utterly." On the other hand, Michael Griffin's article does not show any examples of figurative language mainly because his piece is written in first person point of view.

While Ray Bradbury's and Michael Griffin's piece differ greatly when it comes to points of view and figurative language, the author's purpose is the same. It is clear that the author's purpose is to inform people about the dangers of technology. Ray Bradbury's short story tells how if technology gets out of hand, then bad things can happen and it can potentially ruin the environment. Although there is not a lot of examples of point of view directly in Bradbury's short story, he says "The morning house lay empty" and it is very clear that the author's purpose is to show how technology has ruined the environment and forced people out of their homes. In Michael Griffin's piece there are many examples of the author's purpose. Griffin says, "Literally anyone with basic coding knowledge and 15

minutes can hack into my computer and see and manipulate what I am doing.” Griffin also talks about his own experience with the dangers of technology and he informs people about how dangerous technology really is.

These two pieces have many differences but one main similarity. Ray Bradbury’s “There Will Come Soft Rains” is written in third person objective while Michael Griffin’s “The Dangers of Modern Technology” is written in first person point of view. Bradbury also used different figurative language than Griffin. Ray Bradbury used a lot of personification and some alliteration, while Michael Griffin’s piece does not show any figurative language. The one thing these two pieces have in common is the author’s purpose. Although the two pieces were written differently, it is clear that the author’s purpose is to inform people on the dangers of technology.

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Argumentative Essay

Priscilla, who just got her license, is a junior at Northwood High School. Priscilla's parents started tracking her when she started driving without her knowledge. However, Priscilla eventually found out, and she was furious. Do parents have the right to track their teenager's location? Parents should not have the right to track their dependents because doing so will destroy the trust between parents and teenagers and could permanently damage their relationships, will possibly deter teenagers from being independent, and will cause teenagers to purposely mislead their caretakers by leaving their cell phones in different locations, possibly putting themselves in greater damage.

Parents tracking their teenagers could lead to their relationships being ruined. According to psychologist Lisa Damour, who was interviewed by *CBS News*, "We have research that tells us that if kids feel like their privacy is being invaded, it does harm to the relationship." Trust is an important part of any relationship. If parents cause their children not to trust them, then their relationship will be ruined. Trust is not an easy thing to gain back. In order not to ruin a relationship that has taken years to build, parents should not track their kids.

Teenagers may be deterred from becoming independent. According to Greenberg, "Part of maturing means making mistakes and learning from them. If the child feels that the parent is always watching and will always fix everything, the child may develop a lack of confidence and increased anxiety." Mothers and fathers protecting their children is one thing; however, overprotecting them is harmful. Children need to grow up and grow into being a teenager, and part of that is becoming independent. Adolescents will make mistakes and mature from them, and that how is how they grow up, so it is important they are not deterred from being independent.

Minors may manipulate their cell phones to reflect inaccurate information or locations. According to professor Andy Phippen, "Kids say, 'If I go down to the park to drink, I just leave my phone at a friend's house.' So their parents are none the wiser. Kids don't need their devices when they are together in person." Youngsters will always find a way to avoid being tracked. With all the tracking apps coming out, it just gives other people ideas for more apps that override the tracking ones. Also, if mothers and fathers try and spy on their offspring's location, then the children will just leave their cellular devices in the right location and then potentially be in danger without a cell phone. Parents should rather have their teens safe and not be tracked, than be potentially put in danger because of the tracking.

On the other hand, many people believe parents should be able to track their teenager's location. They believe teenagers often make impetuous decisions and do not

realize the consequences of their actions. This is true; however, it is a necessary part of growing up and becoming independent. The opposing side also argues that parents usually pay the phone bill each month; therefore, they have the right to know how the device is being used. However, if parents do not trust their minors, then why give them a cell phone in the first place? Lastly, they feel that parents will know exactly where their children are and what they are doing rather than jumping to conclusions, which will result in a healthier relationship. This is an unjust claim. Spying on teens will only harm the relationship. It is very clear to see that none of these arguments are valid.

Parents should not have the right to track their dependents. Trust is key to any relationship, and if the child feels her mom and dad do not trust her, then the relationship is ruined. Minors may also be deterred from becoming independent if mothers and fathers do not let them grow up and learn from their own mistakes. Also with today's technology, it is easier to mislead parents when they are trying to spy on their teens. Consequently, it is clear to see why parents should not have the right to track and spy on their children.

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