

Is technology a blessing or a curse? When it works, great; but when it doesn't, a black curtain covers the earth. Technology is supposed to make life easier, but it seems to create more work or costly mistakes.

In his essay "Technology, Movement, and Sound," Ed Bell makes the following statement: "Although technology has improved society in many ways, we use it indiscriminately, not distinguishing the good from the bad" (470). David Gilernter essay "'Unplugged: The Myth of Computers in the Classroom" echoes Bell's sentiment: "In practice, however, computers make our worst educational nightmares come true (187). Not all critics agree. In "Cyberspace: If You Don't Like It, Leave It," author Esther Dyson retorts, "We haven't created a perfect society on earth and we won't have one in cyberspace either" (294).

Do you agree with Bell's Gilernter's and Dyson's (other) assertions about technology? Would we be better off with fewer technological advancements? Or should we acknowledge that technology has truly improved our lives, however imperfect as Dyson suggests?

Consider the ways technology has affected contemporary life. We have witnessed tremendous developments in the areas of communication, transportation, medicine, education, entertainment, social networking, flying cars—not to mention, personal computing, iPads, Apple watches, iPhones, ear buds and others. Are all technological advancements positive or does technology actually influence us in negative ways? These questions exist today and will continue into the future.

Assignment: In this essay (850-1250 words), you will be utilizing a variety of genres: summary/response, exposition, and argumentation. You will have to use at least one of Bell's, Gilertner's, and Dyson's (other) articles and then either agree or disagree with their thesis. If you can't take a pro or con decision, you could possibly write an essay with a more moderate view.