

English II Writing Persuasive Prompt

Read the following quotation.

"Technology... is a queer thing. It brings you great gifts with one hand, and it stabs you in the back with the other."

~Carrie Snow

Stand up comedian, comic writer

All advances in technology come with positive and negative impacts. Some people believe all technologies are negative; others see the development of technology as the answer to all of our problems.

Write an essay convincing others whether technology is positive or negative.

Be sure to –

- clearly state your thesis
- organize and develop your ideas effectively
- choose your words carefully
- edit your writing for grammar, mechanics, and spelling

Planning Guide Persuasive Papers

I. Introductory paragraph

- A. Topic
- B. The debate
- C. Position or best choice (thesis)
- D. Reasons or arguments (forecast)

II. Body paragraphs

- A. Reason or argument stated in a topic sentence*
- B. Supporting details**
 - 1. Examples
 - 2. Cause and effect
 - 3. Personal experience

III. Summary and conclusion paragraph

- A. Restatement of the position (thesis or claim) or best choice
- B. Restatement of the reasons or arguments (forecast)
- C. Conclusion (one or more of the following)
 - 1. Call to action
 - 2. Suggestion for a solution
 - 3. Parting thought

Types of Reasons

- M - money (financial)
- S - safety
- H - health
- E - environmental
- E - educational
- P – people (social relationships)

* No set number of reasons or supporting details

** Other methods of support can be equally effective.

Planning Organizer

Persuasive: Pro or Con

Thesis statement

Without doubt, technology has had a positive impact on learning with the exchange of information among all people.

Possible Reasons or Arguments For (Pro)	Supporting Details
Used as a teaching aid	Children interests in devices
	Games have been made to teach children
	Learning has become more interactive
	Sparked learning in and out of the classroom
Easier accessibility to information	Search engines, such as Google
	Quickly provide information
	Easier to find information for assignments
	Makes communication easier
	Email, social media, texting
Boosted our society	Made the U.S. one of the strongest most advanced nations
	Better development in all areas
	All people benefit

Conclusion

Technology is a beautiful tool in our ever-growing society; it helps all people keep growing and changing innovatively.

Strong call to action or solution

I. Introduction

Thesis-Position - Without doubt, technology has had a positive impact on learning with the exchange of information among all people.

II. Body

MI - Used as a teaching aid

- Children interests in devices
- Games have been made to teach children
- Learning has become more interactive
- Sparked learning in and out of the classroom

MI - Easier accessibility to information

- Search engines, such as Google
- Quickly provide information
- Easier to find information for assignments
- Makes communication easier
- Email, social media, texting

MI - Boosted our society

- Made the U.S. one of the strongest most advanced nations
- Better development in all areas
- All people benefit

III. Closing

Thesis-Position and PT - Technology is a beautiful tool in our ever-growing society; it helps all people keep growing and changing innovatively.

Collaborative Interactive Writing Activity

Teacher directions - cut apart each part of the writing plan.

- Provide each group a part of the essay.
- Draft each paragraph using the plan provided.



I. Introduction (Topic stated in a thesis statement & main ideas)

Add a meaningful hook or lead to grab your reader's attention. Use this thesis (position) or develop one with a similar idea.

Thesis or position – Without doubt, technology has had a positive impact on learning with the exchange of information among all people.

Write a topic sentence with the MI. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

II. Body

MI – Used as a teaching aid

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

- Children interests in devices
- Games have been made to teach children
- Learning has become more interactive
- Sparked learning in and out of the classroom

Write a topic sentence with the MI. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

MI – Easier accessibility to information

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

- Search engines, such as Google
- Quickly provide information
- Easier to find information for assignments
- Makes communication easier
- Email, social media, texting

Write a topic sentence with the MI. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

MI – Boosted our society

- Made the U.S. one of the strongest most advanced nations
- Better development in all areas
- All people benefit

Use the restated thesis (position) or develop one with fresh new words. Use the parting thought or develop a new one to leave your audience with a thoughtful closing.

III. Conclusion

Thesis and PT – Technology is a beautiful tool in our ever-growing society; it helps all people keep growing and changing innovatively.

Thesis statement

The advances in technology have been negative because it is hindering the creative ability of our own minds.

Possible Reasons or Arguments Against (Con)	Supporting Details
Technology dependent youth and adults	Toddlers using technological devises
	Children rely on technology
	Time away from devices has become a punishment for children.
	Adults rely on phones for entertainment
	May ignore children or responsibilities
A distraction to many students	Teens on the internet for hours
	Procrastinate doing homework
	Social media sites such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter
	Cause teens to become distracted from what's important.

Conclusion

Even though technology has had tremendous benefits, it has also made us technology dependent and caused distractions to important things in life.

Strong call to action or solution

I. Introduction

Thesis-Position - The advances in technology have been negative because it is hindering the creative ability of our own minds.

II. Body

MI - Technology dependent youth and adults

- Toddlers using technological devices
- Children rely on technology
- Time away from devices has become a punishment for children.
- Adults rely on phones for entertainment
- May ignore children or responsibilities

MI - A distraction to many students

- Teens on the internet for hours
- Procrastinate doing homework
- Social media sites such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter
- Cause teens to become distracted from what's important.

III. Closing

Thesis-Position and PT - Even though technology has had tremendous benefits, it has also made us technology dependent and caused distractions to important things in life.

Collaborative Interactive Writing Activity

Teacher directions - cut apart each part of the writing plan.

- Provide each group a part of the essay.
- Draft each paragraph using the plan provided.



Add a meaningful hook or lead to grab your reader's attention. Use this thesis (position) or develop one with a similar idea.

I. Introduction (Topic stated in a thesis statement & main ideas)

Thesis or position – The advances in technology have been negative because it is hindering the creative ability of our own minds.

Write a topic sentence with the MI. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

II. Body

MI – Technology dependent youth and adults

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

- Toddlers using technological devices
- Children rely on technology
- Time away from devices has become a punishment for children.
- Adults rely on phones for entertainment
- May ignore children or responsibilities

Write a topic sentence with the MI. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

MI – A distraction to many students

- Teens on the internet for hours
- Procrastinate doing homework
- Social media sites such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter
- Cause teens to become distracted from what's important.

Use the restated thesis (position) or develop one with fresh new words. Use the parting thought or develop a new one to leave your audience with a thoughtful closing.

III. Conclusion

Thesis and PT – Even though technology has had tremendous benefits, it has also made us technology dependent and caused distractions to important things in life.

Revision Checklist Persuasive

Introductory Paragraph	Body Paragraphs			Concluding Paragraph
Topic _____	Main Ideas			Topic _____
Thesis _____ (Choice or Position)	1 st reason _____	2 nd reason _____	3 rd reason _____	Thesis _____ (Choice or Position)
Reasons 1. _____	E_____	E_____	E_____	Reasons _____
2. _____	CE_____	CE_____	CE_____	Solution _____
3. _____	PE_____	PE_____	PE_____	Call to Action _____
	Other_____	Other_____	Other_____	Parting Thought _____

Sentence Variations

Compound Sentence with correct comma usage before the FANBOYS _____

Complex Sentences with correct comma, based on subordinate conjunction placement

BONUS! Compound Complex Sentences with correct comma usage _____

Detail Sentence Leads – Author’s Craft: Place checkmarks next to the detail leads.

Details that Describe	Action Details	Persuasive Details	Details that Inform	Dialogue Details
State the obvious	Act and think	If...then	State the opposite	“Dialogue” with tags
Just like that	But, why???	Take the opposite side	What’s Next?	Instead of <i>said</i>
Action, action, action clues	Numbers date/time/value	Good insightful question(s)	High Interest – what’s next	Talking and thinking
In the middle	Location transition	Imagine this...	Positive sweet with a negative sour	Action and words
Zoom in & describe	Adverb comma	It’s complicated and complex	For the first time ever..	Tell me about it
Intentional repetition	<i>ings</i> phrases present participles	Now...Then	Define it	
Pop culture	Eds phrases	We... statements of unity	AKA – proper nouns	
Personification people characteristics	Onomatopoeia (sound)	Call to action	In other words (restatement)	
Set the stage		Hyperbole exaggerate!	Important or significant	
I, we, they think			Love, love, love	
			Historical reference	

