



English I

Expository Scoring Guide

April 2018

English I

Expository Prompt

Read the information in the box below.

In a 2005 marketing research study, teens cited writing as one of their main creative outlets. They also said their “ideal” activity is reading a book, followed by exercising and shopping. Although the teens surveyed said that reading is an “ideal” activity, they admitted that they’re actually much more likely to spend their free time surfing the Internet, watching TV, and listening to music.

Think carefully about the impact technology has on teenagers’ lives.

Write an essay explaining why new technology is so important to teenagers.

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

Score Point 1

The essay represents a very limited writing performance.

Organization/Progression

- ❑ The organizing structure of the essay is inappropriate to the purpose or the specific demands of the prompt. The writer uses organizational strategies that are only marginally suited to the explanatory task, or they are inappropriate or not evident at all. The absence of a functional organizational structure causes the essay to lack clarity and direction.
- ❑ Most ideas are generally related to the topic specified in the prompt, but the thesis statement is missing, unclear, or illogical. The writer may fail to maintain focus on the topic, may include extraneous information, or may shift abruptly from idea to idea, weakening the coherence of the essay.
- ❑ The writer's progression of ideas is weak. Repetition or wordiness sometimes causes serious disruptions in the flow of the essay. At other times the lack of transitions and sentence-to-sentence connections causes the writer to present ideas in a random or illogical way, making one or more parts of the essay unclear or difficult to follow.

Development of Ideas

- ❑ The development of ideas is weak. The essay is ineffective because the writer uses details and examples that are inappropriate, vague, or insufficient.
- ❑ The essay is insubstantial because the writer's response to the prompt is vague or confused. In some cases, the essay as a whole is only weakly linked to the prompt. In other cases, the writer develops the essay in a manner that demonstrates a lack of understanding of the expository writing task.

Use of Language/Conventions

- ❑ The writer's word choice may be vague or limited. It reflects little or no awareness of the expository purpose and does not establish a tone appropriate to the task. The word choice may impede the quality and clarity of the essay.
- ❑ Sentences are simplistic, awkward, or uncontrolled, significantly limiting the effectiveness of the essay.
- ❑ The writer has little or no command of sentence boundaries and spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and usage conventions. Serious and persistent errors create disruptions in the fluency of the writing and sometimes interfere with meaning.

Technology is important to teenagers lives now a days. For example a 2005 research study, teens spend free time on the Internet and watching TV, and listening to music. This has caused teens to have technology to have a main role in their life. From taking their cell phones, smartphones, music players, and tablets to everywhere they go. making them able to access what ever information they want at any time. make's technology very important and usefull to teens. This use of tech can be used for learning purposes in the class. making teenagers learn more and make technology more usefull to them. So in a way tech makes fun to teens so that they can learn and relax in any place.

Score Point 1

In the last sentence of this essay, the writer provides the thesis that technology is “fun to teens” because it allows them to “learn and relax in any place.” The writer shifts abruptly from idea to idea (Teens spend free time with technology, Take technology everywhere, and use it to access information and for learning and relaxing), weakening the coherence of the essay. Additionally, the development is weak because the details within the essay are mainly borrowed from the prompt, are vague, and do not represent any of the writer’s original thoughts. Sentences are often uncontrolled (“Make’s technology very important . . . to teens”; “Making teenagers learn more and make technology more useful to them”), significantly limiting the effectiveness of this very limited writing performance.

A teenager without new technology is like a wild Bronco. Teens in the twenty first century are all in tech geekery. and must be up to date with their tech. Teen surveys suggest that about ten percent of the United States cell phone's data usage is from middle age americans. Man ninety percent of this data is from teens wow! Their new cell-phones are like trading cards, teens must be first almost like a race. And these are the reasons why I think teens new technology is very important to them.

Score Point 1

The writer provides the idea that because of the world they live in, teens “must be up to date with their tech.” The lack of transitions and sentence-to-sentence connections causes the writer to present support for this idea in random ways, beginning with an unclear comparison (“A teenager without new technology is like a wild Bronco”), then moving to an observation about teen data use and how cell phones are like trading cards, and finally comparing technology to a race. The writer does not develop any of these ideas, which results in an insubstantial essay. Furthermore, sentences are awkward and uncontrolled (“Man ninety percent of this data is from teens wow! Their new cell-phones are like trading cards, teens must be first almost like a race”), significantly limiting the effectiveness of this very limited writing performance.

Technology is important to us teenagers because it helps us communicate with our friends and loved ones. It also helps us be informed for example we can watch the news in our smart phones. It helps us do things that we couldn't do three hundred years ago. It makes jobs easier to do everyone benefits using technology. It can help us to search and find answers for our homework. Without technology jobs would be harder to do and finish and less fun because you can entertain yourself using technology. Technology is not only for entertaining it is also used for important things like that could save lives to inform.

Score Point 1

In this essay the absence of a functional thesis causes the essay to lack direction. The writer shifts abruptly from idea to idea (Technology is important because it helps teens communicate, stay informed, “find answers for . . . homework,” stay entertained, and save lives), creating a list that lacks coherence. The essay is ineffective because the writer’s examples are insufficiently developed. Additionally, the writer demonstrates no command of sentence boundaries (“helps us communicate with our friends and . . . loved ones I also helps us be informed for example we can watch the news in our smart phones It helps us do things . . .”), which disrupts the fluency of this very limited writing performance.

Explain why new technology is so important to teenagers. The technology is important to teenager because, They can communicate with teachers, or some one else where they would be available to ask for help about they home work, or something else like source on a website so they can get information from there to finish they project. otherwise is where they have the advanced communication where they would be available to find bunch of stuff that they would be interesting on them, where they would distract with they mind for a bit. But infact technology have become a big help for the students, that they have been do it a experiment who get more good grades with the ones withough technology, and what we see is that the ones that did it with technology pass.

Score Point 1

In this very limited essay, the writer implies that technology is important to teenagers because it can help them be successful students. Although this idea is reasonable, the few details provided to support this thesis (“communicate with teachers or someone else to ask for help about they homework, or something else like source on a website...”) are vague and insufficiently developed. Additionally, the writer uses an inappropriate transition in the middle of the essay to present a new idea (“... , otherwise is where they have the advanced communication where they would be available to find bunch of stuff that they would be interesting on them”) related to being entertained by technology. The lack of focus as well as awkward and uncontrolled sentences significantly limit the effectiveness of this writing performance.

Score Point 2

The essay represents a basic writing performance.

Organization/Progression

- ❑ The organizing structure of the essay is evident but may not always be appropriate to the purpose or the specific demands of the prompt. The essay is not always clear because the writer uses organizational strategies that are only somewhat suited to the expository task.
- ❑ Most ideas are generally related to the topic specified in the prompt, but the writer's thesis statement is weak or somewhat unclear. The lack of an effective thesis or the writer's inclusion of irrelevant information interferes with the focus and coherence of the essay.
- ❑ The writer's progression of ideas is not always logical and controlled. Sometimes repetition or wordiness causes minor disruptions in the flow of the essay. At other times transitions and sentence-to-sentence connections are too perfunctory or weak to support the flow of the essay or show the relationships among ideas.

Development of Ideas

- ❑ The development of ideas is minimal. The essay is superficial because the writer uses details and examples that are not always appropriate or are too briefly or partially presented.
- ❑ The essay reflects little or no thoughtfulness. The writer's response to the prompt is sometimes formulaic. The writer develops the essay in a manner that demonstrates only a limited understanding of the expository writing task.

Use of Language/Conventions

- ❑ The writer's word choice may be general or imprecise. It reflects a basic awareness of the expository purpose but does little to establish a tone appropriate to the task. The word choice may not contribute to the quality and clarity of the essay.
- ❑ Sentences are awkward or only somewhat controlled, weakening the effectiveness of the essay.
- ❑ The writer demonstrates a partial command of sentence boundaries and spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and usage conventions. Some distracting errors may be evident, at times creating minor disruptions in the fluency or meaning of the writing.

"Text me when you get there!"
Technology is important to teenagers because it helps you stay in contact with your friends and family and it helps you with researching anything.
First point is that technology is important because it helps you keep in touch. Cell-phones can help you text any friend or family member. If you need to meet up with anyone all you got to do is message them.
Second point is that technology is important because it helps you research anything. If you ever get homework and don't understand it you can go to the Internet and search it up.
This concludes that technology is important because it helps you contact with others and helps you search what's needed. Use technology appropriately but take advantage of what it can help you with in life.

Score Point 2

The writer provides the two-part thesis that technology is important to teens "because it helps you stay in contact with your friends and family and it helps you research anything." The development of ideas is minimal because the hypothetical examples the writer uses to support each of part of the thesis ("If you need to meet up with anyone all you got to do is message them"; "If you ever get homework and don't understand it you can go to the Internet and search it up") are too briefly presented. Additionally, the use of perfunctory transitions (First point, second point, this concludes) between paragraphs does not establish the relationship between ideas beyond a topical link. Holistically, this essay indicates a basic writing performance.

Modern day technology is a big part of peoples lives today. Although this new technology has a big impact on teenagers and it is used all the time by them. Today's new technology is nothing like it was before. Back then you had to do a lot of things on your own and it took a lot time and energy. The teens love the new technology because the technology does a lot for them. They don't worry about many things because they have everything they need all in one device. If they search something they use a phone, or computer if they wanna buy something they can use a phone or computer. If a teen is bored and has nothing to do they won't go outside and play or read a books. They'll just turn on the video games and do that all day long and sometimes all night to. New technology is so important to teens because they don't waste as much and energy as it was before, so it's a big necessity to them.

Score Point 2

In this response, the writer presents the thesis in the concluding sentence that technology is important because teens do not waste as much energy as teens in past generations. The writer attempts a compare-contrast organizing structure to show how technology helps today's teens use less energy than teens from former generations (New technology makes modern teens' lives easier because "they have everything they need all in one device"). The organizational structure is evident but ineffective because the writer only briefly mentions what life was like before technology and does not sufficiently develop the comparison throughout the essay. The essay is superficial because the writer uses details (Teens use technology to search for things, buy things, and entertain themselves) that are too partially presented. Moreover, word choice is general ("do a lot of things"; "don't worry about many things"; "do that all day"), and sentences are only somewhat controlled ("If they search something they use a phone, or computer if they wanna buy something they can use a phone or computer"), weakening the effectiveness of the essay. For these reasons, this response demonstrates a basic writing performance.

<p>Teenagers with technology helps them out when they really need it. Technology is important to teenagers because when they need help with something, they go to the internet & figure it out. If we didn't have technology, I think teenagers would be lost. No one to text, no one to call, no games, no social network.</p> <p>Even though technology is a big thing for teenagers, I think it helps them with their school work. Because if they had a question about something, they could go to the internet on their phone & search it up. But at the same time, teenagers use technology too much. They sometimes don't try to work hard during school & just look up what the answer is on their phone.</p>

Score Point 2

At the beginning of this essay, the writer provides a broad thesis that technology is important to teenagers because it “helps them out when they really need it.” The first paragraph explains that “teenagers would be lost” without technology and then lists the types of connections (texts, calls, games, social networks) that technology provides. Using an inappropriate transition (“Even though technology is a big thing for teenagers, I think it helps them with their school work”) in the second paragraph, the writer briefly presents some specific examples in support of the thesis (Technology helps teenagers with schoolwork; Teens can use the internet to search for answers to questions). However, the writer also repeats ideas (“they go to the internet & figure it out”; “they could go to the internet on their phone & search it up”), which results in minimal development. The inclusion of irrelevant information (“teenagers use technology too much. They sometimes don’t try to work hard during school & just look up what the answer is on their phone”) interferes with the focus and coherence of the essay. Additionally, the writer’s word choice is general (“help with something”; “technology is a big thing”; “a question about something”; “search it up”) and does not contribute to the quality and of clarity of this basic writing performance.

Technology is growing rapidly in the world. Everyone wants to have the newest computers and cell phones, especially teenagers. Technology is very important to teenagers because they have some type of technology with them everyday and they put their lives on technology.

For teenagers, having the newest and most expensive technology is a necessity. They have to have it because if they go one day without it, they miss out on alot of things like drama on the internet. Teenagers have made technology something they cannot live without. They think that you cant get people to like you if you dont have technology. for example, if one person has an old sliding phone and another person has a **new cell phone** with **many apps**, the sliding phone owner is going to think they have no life.

Teenagers have put in their minds that if you do not have good technology, they cannot be "popular!" And that leads to teenagers making technology more important than anything else in the world.

Score Point 2

The writer offers the weak thesis that technology is important to teens "because they have some type of technology with them every day and they put their lives on technology." The writer provides minimal development to explain how technology is a "necesity" for teenagers (Without technology, teens miss out on "drama on the intanet" and think others may not like them). Additionally, the writer's partial command of spelling conventions ("everday," "lifes," "necesity," "withought," "cant," "dont") creates some minor disruptions in the fluency of this basic writing performance.

Score Point 3

The essay represents a satisfactory writing performance.

Organization/Progression

- ❑ The organizing structure of the essay is, for the most part, appropriate to the purpose and responsive to the specific demands of the prompt. The essay is clear because the writer uses organizational strategies that are adequately suited to the expository task.
- ❑ The writer establishes a clear thesis statement. Most ideas are related to the thesis and are focused on the topic specified in the prompt. The essay is coherent, though it may not always be unified due to minor lapses in focus.
- ❑ The writer's progression of ideas is generally logical and controlled. For the most part, transitions are meaningful, and sentence-to-sentence connections are sufficient to support the flow of the essay and show the relationships among ideas.

Development of Ideas

- ❑ The development of ideas is sufficient because the writer uses details and examples that are specific and appropriate, adding some substance to the essay.
- ❑ The essay reflects some thoughtfulness. The writer's response to the prompt is original rather than formulaic. The writer develops the essay in a manner that demonstrates a good understanding of the expository writing task.

Use of Language/Conventions

- ❑ The writer's word choice is, for the most part, clear and specific. It reflects an awareness of the expository purpose and establishes a tone appropriate to the task. The word choice usually contributes to the quality and clarity of the essay.
- ❑ Sentences are varied and adequately controlled, for the most part contributing to the effectiveness of the essay.
- ❑ The writer demonstrates an adequate command of sentence boundaries and spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and usage conventions. Although some errors may be evident, they create few (if any) disruptions in the fluency of the writing, and they do not affect the clarity of the essay.

Have you ever wondered why ~~new~~ technology is so important to teenagers. Technology can help teenagers out on anything even school, writing an essay, or maybe even reading.

For example, when I was doing a project for my reading class in the sixth grade. My classmates and me had to read and write a two page essay about a book my teacher assigned us. I ~~was~~ assigned a book called "The Outsiders," which was about a boy and his best friend running away because of violence. So I went to the local library and looked for it but they didn't have it. I ended being hopeless because I couldn't find the book anywhere. Until my mom got me a tablet, where I can download and read books online. So I looked for "The Outsiders" and read it until I finished reading it. The next day I turned in my essay and got an "A" on it.

Another reason why technology is important to teenagers is because it can help them communicate with love ones in other places. Instead of calling you can now video chat with them and see how they're doing. You can also send better, ~~more~~ clearer pictures to them.

Technology can help you out on anything. It can also help you become more successful on what you want to be when you grow up. So that's the reason why new technology is so important to teenagers.

Score Point 3

In this essay the writer focuses on the idea that "Technology can help teenagers out on anything." Although the transitions between paragraphs are somewhat formulaic ("For example," "Another reason"), the sentence-to-sentence connections within the paragraphs ("Instead of calling you can now video chat with them and see how they're doing. You can also send better, more clearer pictures") are sufficient to support the flow of the essay. The writer develops two specific examples, a personal anecdote and an observation about the role technology plays in increased communication, adding some substance to the essay. Overall, this essay demonstrates a satisfactory writing performance.

New technology is important to teenagers because it allows them to communicate easier and to participate in school outside the classroom.
It is important for teens to communicate so they can develop a social life. With the help of social networking websites on the
Internet, the opportunity to talk to people increases. Majority of teens connect by speaking through social media or by webcam chatting which allows teenagers to be face to face with someone with being in the same room. Having a social life as a teen is very important and with the help of new technology, it is easier to maintain. However, new technology isn't just for talking to friends.
Now there are many ways to talk to your teachers, turn in assignments, and look at your grades without being at school. Today there are many websites on the Internet that allow teenagers to complete assignments on time and some that even check for copywriting. School websites, emails, and an online grade book are very important to teenagers these days. It helps them stay on track and get help from teachers while at home. These new uses of technology benefit the teenagers greatly and even make school a little more enjoyable.
New technology is very important to teenagers because it helps them connect with friends easier and makes school easier to manage.

Score Point 3

In the first sentence of this response, the writer presents the clear thesis, “New technology is important to teenagers because it allows them to communicate easier and to participate in school outside the classroom.” The writer provides specific details and examples about how technology helps teens talk with teachers, turn in assignments, and check grades from home. To explain the thesis, the writer presents some details in the second paragraph about how technology makes communication easier (social networking sites and webcam chatting increase the opportunity for teens to talk to people), adding substance to the essay. Though the perfunctory conclusion does not add to the quality of the essay, word choice throughout the response is, for the most part, clear and specific (“social networking,” “connect,” “stay on track,” “benefit,” “manage”), shows how technology facilitates communication, and has a positive effect on a teenager’s social life. Holistically, this essay indicates a satisfactory writing performance.

The importance of technology in the lives of teenagers has grown significantly over the last 10 years, and has become a centerpoint in which many teens focus their lives around today.

As teenagers, our minds are expanding rapidly and we are receiving a taste of what the real world is like, and preparing for our future at the same time. While we can still use the old fashioned method of pencils and paper, the addition of technology to our learning environment opens up many new opportunities and brings forth an abundance of new ideas for learning. By using technology in both a home and school setting, we are exposed to many different components of new technology such as programs and software.

The use of technology in our everyday lives as teens is important because it prepares us for the future. Almost every job today has incorporated the use of technology into the workforce, and the more we use technology, the more accustomed we become to it. We also have the ability to see how it works in problem solving and other tasks and challenges the workforce holds for employees.

The importance of technology in the lives of teenagers has grown significantly, and it will only continue to expand as it is incorporated into home, school, and work settings. The use of technology prepares us for what is to come for us in our future, and is a privilege we should take advantage of.

Score Point 3

The writer of this response uses a philosophical approach to present the thesis that technology is important to teenagers because technology “prepares us for what is to come for us in our future, and is a privilege we should take advantage of.” Sentence-to-sentence connections support the flow of the essay and result in a generally logical progression of ideas (“As teenagers, our minds are expanding rapidly and we are receiving a taste of what the real world is like, and preparing for our future at the same time. While we can still use the old fashioned method of pencils and paper, the addition of technology to our learning environment opens up new ideas for learning”). The development of ideas is sufficient because the writer uses specific details and examples (“Almost every job today has incorporated the use of technology”; “see how [technology] works in problem solving”) to help further explain the thesis. Clear and specific word choice (“more accustomed”; “opportunities”; “problem solving and other tasks”) illustrates how technology is preparing teenagers for the future. Holistically, this essay indicates a satisfactory writing performance.

A lot of people question why the teen generation is so hooked on technology. Take it from a teenager herself, it isn't only what you think. Yes, we like to keep up on the celebrity news and gossip, but there are more reasons we use technology.

I have family members that live in California, Colorado, Michigan, Ohio, and Texas, it is hard to keep track of them, and imagine writing a letter to all of them. I am also very impatient, so I would get upset if it takes 2 days to deliver one piece of paper. It goes along with that saying, "Ain't nobody got time for that." So I use technology to keep up and see what they are up to.

I also like to hang out with my friends. Some may say, "You get 7 hours with them at school every day." True, but we also get school work we have to do, so there isn't a whole lot of interacting. If we need help with homework, we can send a text saying, "need help w/ hw. plz," and it will only take 2-3 seconds to send.

Teenagers use technology for multiple reasons. Not just to see if Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez are back together, or the latest One Direction video on Internet. Even though these are entertaining, there are a lot more ways we use technology, we just use it to the full extent.

Score Point 3

This essay focuses on the idea that technology is important to teens because aside from keeping up with popular culture and the latest gossip, technology helps teenagers communicate. The writer's progression of ideas is generally logical and controlled because sentence-to-sentence connections ("A lot of people question why the teen generation is so hooked on technology. Take it from a teenager herself, it isn't only what you think") are sufficient to support the flow of the essay. The writer provides two related and appropriate examples of using technology to maintain relationships as support ("I have family members in California, Colorado . . . and Texas. It is hard to keep track of them, and imagine writing a letter to all of them"; "I also like to hang out with my friends. Some may say, 'You get 7 hours with them at school every day.' True, but . . . there isn't a whole lot of interacting"). Specific details and examples ("If we need help with homework, we can send a text saying, need help w/hw.plz") add substance to the essay. Overall, the essay demonstrates a satisfactory writing performance.

Score Point 4

The essay represents an accomplished writing performance.

Organization/Progression

- ❑ The organizing structure of the essay is clearly appropriate to the purpose and responsive to the specific demands of the prompt. The essay is skillfully crafted because the writer uses organizational strategies that are particularly well suited to the expository task.
- ❑ The writer establishes a clear thesis statement. All ideas are strongly related to the thesis and are focused on the topic specified in the prompt. By sustaining this focus, the writer is able to create an essay that is unified and coherent.
- ❑ The writer's progression of ideas is logical and well controlled. Meaningful transitions and strong sentence-to-sentence connections enhance the flow of the essay by clearly showing the relationships among ideas, making the writer's train of thought easy to follow.

Development of Ideas

- ❑ The development of ideas is effective because the writer uses details and examples that are specific and well chosen, adding substance to the essay.
- ❑ The essay is thoughtful and engaging. The writer may choose to use his/her unique experiences or view of the world as a basis for writing or to connect ideas in interesting ways. The writer develops the essay in a manner that demonstrates a thorough understanding of the expository writing task.

Use of Language/Conventions

- ❑ The writer's word choice is purposeful and precise. It reflects a keen awareness of the expository purpose and maintains a tone appropriate to the task. The word choice strongly contributes to the quality and clarity of the essay.
- ❑ Sentences are purposeful, varied, and well controlled, enhancing the effectiveness of the essay.
- ❑ The writer demonstrates a consistent command of sentence boundaries and spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and usage conventions. Although minor errors may be evident, they do not detract from the fluency of the writing or the clarity of the essay. The overall strength of the conventions contributes to the effectiveness of the essay.

Teenagers have never known life without technology. Using technology is as natural as breathing for teens. Technology is convenient and a tool for everyday life. Most people wake up in the morning and have a routine. They brush their teeth, shower, maybe have some breakfast. Most teenagers add technology to that routine. They check their phones for news, weather, email, or other messages from friends. This is not a luxury, it's a necessity.

To start the day, teens use their phones as alarm clocks. You can wake to a favorite song or to the relaxing sound of flowing water. To make sure your ride will be on time, you can text your friend to make sure he's awake. You might have time to play a game, and the game could be educational like *Device 6* or *80 Days* which require lots of reading and engage your brain. You can also text your friends about meeting for lunch, and this can all be accomplished on the same handheld device.

On the way to school, teens can use their phones to check for updates on activities and practices or even finish a homework assignment. Some coaches or band directors require students to check practice schedules each day. Some homework assignments require online research. Teens have to be connected to technology to stay on schedule and to keep up with school standards.

After school, teens can notify their parents about a pick up time. You can even let your parent know that you are going to a friend's house and to pick you up there. Your parents never have to worry about where you are, and you never have to feel alone if you have your phone by your side. You can be in instant contact with another human being if you have your phone handy.

Technology offers a tool for communication and information. It keeps teens on schedule and safe. Everyday life for teens would be more difficult and complicated to manage without technology.

Score Point 4

The writer of this essay presents the thesis, "Technology is convenient and a tool for every day life." The writer uses a chronological structure to show the many ways in which teenagers use technology throughout the day. The organizing structure is clearly appropriate to the expository task, fully supporting the idea that teenagers are dependent on technology. The development of ideas is effective because the writer uses details and examples that are specific and well chosen (teens use phones as alarm clocks, to text friends, play games, check for homework assignments, do research, and keep parents updated), adding substance to the essay. Word choice is purposeful and precise ("routine," "updates," "schedules," "instant"), and illustrates how teenagers rely on the convenience of technology on a daily basis. For these reasons, this essay demonstrates an accomplished writing performance.

Adults say that they miss the days of their youth when everyone would play outside. But is the past, when technology was slowly developing, really better? Generations are different because of developments within the world and society. The opportunity of developing technologies give the modern generation of young adults access to develop education and connection to an expanding future. Although it is a nice feeling to feel the page of a textbook. Click under one's fingers, hours of searching are condensed to minutes with advancements in technology. For example, schools worldwide are attempting to incorporate more technology in classrooms, invigorating the learning experiences for young adults. With easier methods of learning, more students are given opportunities to better their education and achieve higher levels of skills than in the past. When new technology is presented unto young adults, it is their job to understand the technology, work with it, and find ways to use it to connect to an expanding future. With Steve Jobs, the founder of a technology company, his works connected him to the modern generation of young adults and he built them this future so that they could use his resources to prepare and expand for another future. New technology for teenagers, is the key to open the lock to release development on the future.

Though there are the few that cling to the past, the future of the past is now, and to the now of the future, this is the past. As confusing as that was, it reflects how confusing planning for the future is without new technology. For modern young adults, new technology would mean acquiring skills and using them to expand.

Score Point 4

The writer of this essay introduces the thesis that “developing technologies give the modern generation . . . access to develop education and connection to an expanding future.” The thoughtful introduction contrasts the past with the present, explaining how technology has facilitated traditional methods of conducting research (“ . . . hours of searching are condensed to minutes with advancements in technology”). The progression of ideas is well controlled, describing a time when technology had little effect on education to a time when teens and adults can better their education and their futures through the use of technology (“For example, schools worldwide are attempting to incorporate more technology in the classroom. . .”; “With easier methods of learning, more students are given opportunities to better their education . . . than in the past”). Specific details and examples make the importance of technology to young people unmistakable (technology in classrooms invigorates the learning experience; students have opportunities to improve their education and “achieve higher levels of skills”; Steve Jobs’ technologies changed young adults of the modern generation and their futures). Additionally, purposeful word choice (“advancements,” “opportunities,” “expand,” “development”) illustrates the idea that technology prepares teens for the future and consistently reflects the writer’s keen awareness of the expository task. For these reasons, this essay demonstrates an accomplished writing performance.

In today's world, it is rare to catch a teenager without an electronic device. Devices such as smart phones and tablets, have transformed our world in such a way that we rely on them for just about everything, including our education. Many people believe teenagers are too attached to electronic devices, especially cell phones, and that these devices aren't necessary to survive in today's world. It may be true that electronic devices are not necessary, but they sure do make school life more convenient.

To begin with, schools use technology as an important way of communicating with students. Teachers have special texting apps that enable them to communicate with students reminding them to turn in important assignments such as research papers, or providing helpful study guides for important tests. During class, most schools allow students to bring their own laptops or tablets from home, or borrow one from the school, in order to conduct research for history or English projects, or simply to access educational websites to study for tests.

In addition to schools, parents also love the instant access to grades that technology provides their teens. They can either check the grades of their children themselves and print, email, or share grades at the dinner table. All students have to do is whip out their smart phone or tablet, pull up the gradebook app, and voila! Instant progress report! (Which may or may not be a good thing to report to one's parents!) To be sure, teens do love using their phones to search the Internet, read about pop culture, and communicate with one another on social media, but it is equally true that we use electronic devices for educational purposes just as much. The next time you see a teenager on their phone, don't just assume we're reading about the Kardashians or playing on **online**. Give us some credit. We might be using **the Internet** to study for our next Spanish test or communicating with our teacher about the night's algebra homework assignment!

Score Point 4

The writer of this essay presents the clear thesis that teens use technology for educational purposes that “make school life more convenient.” Transitions and strong sentence-to-sentence connections enhance the flow of the essay by showing relationships among ideas (“To begin with, schools use technology as an important way of communicating. . . In addition to schools, parents also love the instant access to grades that technology provides their teens. They can. . . check the grades of their children themselves”). Well-chosen examples are provided to demonstrate how technology is used by schools (to send reminders about assignments, to provide study guides, to allow for research, to post progress reports). Moreover, in the conclusion, the writer recognizes that teens also use technology for its social and entertainment value, but reaffirms that teens use technology just as much for educational purposes. For these reasons, the essay demonstrates an accomplished writing performance.

Technological advancements in today's world give modern adolescents the ability and opportunity to connect with the world and society around them, thus allowing them to "find their place" in this finite world.

To perhaps make sheltered teens, technology allows them to explore and discover a world for themselves, uninvolved by parental interaction. This freedom is craved by many, and could even be considered addicting. This new form of socializing and interacting with others can be crucial in establishing self-worth and independence.

In addition, advances like the world wide web (the internet as most call it) allow for a sense of belonging to a community of like minded thinkers, who may provide a sense of community online despite being geographically dispersed. This is likely why sites such as **on the Internet** are so popular.

Popular websites, such as those that promote social change, can also exert positive peer pressure by encouraging positive change in the real-world community.

While some may argue that the internet devalues and discourages creative activity, you would be surprised to know that many teens who may appear to be "surfing the web" are actually active users on sites that focus on artistic development and writing.

These sites, **that are on the Internet**, allow teens to express themselves and share their works with an online community, often receiving positive feedback and encouragement.

Lastly, video-streaming sites **that provide entertainment**, allow adolescents to sit back, relax, and blow off some steam while enjoying the show. The teenage years are a time of change and stress, and now more than ever teens have the ability to be rid of at least a bit of that fatigue-causing monster.

Whether it's good for them or not, technology is as entwined with exploration and adolescence just as a physicist would argue space and time are. Technology is a stable aspect in any teen's life, an eye of a swirling storm of change around them, and unlike a teenager's mood, it's not going to be changing any time soon.

Score Point 4

The writer of this essay provides the thesis that technology gives teens an "opportunity to connect with the world and society . . . 'find their place' in this finite world." All ideas are strongly related to the thesis, and the writer's train of thought is logical and easy to follow. Meaningful transitions and strong sentence-to-sentence connections ("To perhaps some sheltered teens . . ."; "While some may argue . . ."; "Whether it's good for them or not . . .") enhance the flow of the essay. To effectively develop the thesis, the writer provides three useful purposes of technology (sense of community, artistic expression, and entertainment value) and explains a positive outcome for each (encourage positive change, receive feedback and encouragement, and relieve stress). Sentences are varied and well controlled, and enhance the effectiveness of the essay ("The teenage years are a time of change and stress, and now more than ever teens have the ability to be rid of that fatigue-causing monster"). Overall, the writer maintains a tone appropriate to the expository task and demonstrates an accomplished writing performance.

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