**Technology Autobiography**

Hrithik Shah

For almost my entire life, I have been surrounded by technology. Wherever, I have gone technology has always been present. Be it at home, in public, or even washrooms, technology has always been present helping humanity complete tasks in an efficient manner.

When I was younger, technology was more scarce. Till the age of 5 years, I lived in India. Apart from the landline telephone, TV, my father’s computer, and the car, my interactions with technology were minimal. Once I came to Canada though, I was greeted with open arms to this country’s technology.

Today, almost everywhere I look, I see technology. When I wake up in the morning, I usually wake up to music playing from my phone’s alarm. I then turn off my fan that keeps me cool at night. In the washroom, the only pieces of technology are the toilet and the shower. Once I freshen up, breakfast is made using the help of technology. My milk is heated by the microwave and bread is toasted in the toaster. Occasionally, I get to eat pancakes, which my mom cooks using the stove. By the time I leave home for school, I have used several technologies.

At school, teachers use smart boards to aid them in teaching. They also have access to projectors which they use to display information. They use software to help them create slideshows, documents and make the class more fun. All students have access to either a computer or phone which they bring from home. In this day and age, not having your own device at school is a disadvantage, and harms the learning process.

At home, I am busy with homework which I do on my computer, unless it’s math, where I use a notebook. When it’s time for dinner, my family and I watch a show while eating. This show airs on TV and if we do miss an episode, we use the internet to find that particular episode and watch it. If I have finished my homework by dinner, then I usually would either spend time with my family, or play video games on my phone/computer/tablet, or play the piano.

Technology has many advantages and disadvantages in my life. Since I favor technology, I shall start with the disadvantages, so I can end strong. In my opinion, technology has a greater number of advantages than disadvantages.

One can say that since the arrival of technology, mankind has become less social. This is true, if you are talking about face-to-face communication. Mankind has in face become more social as more people have become connected to the internet and more people have become connected to each other. Games such as Pokémon GO, help fans of the game, and even new players mingle with other players in the real world. This is a breakthrough in my eyes, as now technology is bringing back face-to-face communication.

A major downfall in technology is that new software/hardware is developed every year, and technology has been continuing to make high scores in its fields. Sure, this great if you see it as an achievement for humanity, but the problem is that we don’t have a system in place to deal with technology that people throw away as they replace it with new trends. The metals of phones and computers are very difficult to dispose of, and they have to be specially treated by professionals. In third-world countries, people burn the metal of these devices, which releases several toxins in to the air, which can harm the environment around it.

Technology has its advantages and disadvantages. In some people’s eyes, one is greater than the other, but in my opinion the advantages outweigh the disadvantages. Technology’s only drawback has been its disposable. However, it has started to solve problems, such as social communication that happens in the real world. Technology is still growing, and will become the embodiment of our imagination. The future awaits with many surprises!