Read the following articles:

* <http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/ransomware-europe-russia-ukraine-petya-bitcoin-1.4179683>
* <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/oshawa-hospital-cyberattack-1.4114758>
* <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2017/05/13/ontario-health-ministry-on-high-alert-amid-global-cyberattack.html>

Guidelines for writing a supported opinion paragraph (SOP)

* + <http://schools.peelschools.org/sec/fletchersmeadow/studentlife/OSSLTprep/Documents/Sample_%20Writing%20a%20Supported%20opinion%20paragraph.pdf>

**Level 1: Ransomware Basics**

1. What is a ransomware attack?

A ransomware attack is a malware that will hold your personal information and identity from you and will demand you to pay a certain amount of money to receive it.

1. How does ransomwhare work and what does it affect?

The way a ransomware works is that a software takes control of a computer and it encrypts the contained information which blocks the user from accessing it. It mainly affects personal information held in a computer or depending on what the malware is programmed to encrypt and hold.

**Level 2: Canada & Other Countries**

1. What was affected in Canada in the articles above?

According to the information from the articles above, a Lakeridge Health hospital in Oshawa was affected by a ransomware attack.

1. How badly was Canada affected?

Canada was not severely affected because the antivirus software of each computer in the hospital of Oshawa was able to defend against the ransomware. The main schedule of the hospital was not affected either.

1. What other countries were affected?

It is stated that 150 countries were affected but the known countries are Ukraine, Russia, United States, Poland, Italy, Germany, Beijing, and countries in Europe such as Britain.

**Level 3: Canada & Other Countries**

1. Where did the attack come from?

The attack came from a ransomware organization with the name “WannaCry”.

1. Why was the attack started?

The attack was initially started for a demand of $300 or more from each victim to earn money.

1. How was the attacked stopped?

The attack was stopped by an antivirus system that was downloaded on the computers of the Oshawa hospital. The attack was also stopped by the latest software version of the computers.

1. How could you be affected by a ransomware attack?

You can be affected by a ransomware attack if you accidently click on a link or download a program from a message that is sent to you from someone else. You can also be affected by a ransomware attack if you do not have the latest software version downloaded on your computer.

1. How can you protect yourself against a ransomwhare attack?

You can protect yourself against a ransomware attack by having the latest software version downloaded on your computer and by not clicking on links that you feel are suspicious or unsafe.