Jason Jiang

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James Corona

IRP Entries

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**Independent Research Paper Entry I**

When I first being told to determine a topic for the independent research paper and pick a topic, I was confused. In the past I always do papers with given topic, so I spend some time to think: is there anything that I want to research on and write it as paper in the daily life? Then the problem becomes easy. As a Computer Science major student, I first come up with a topic about the technology: the mobilization of the personal electronic devices. In 60 years ago, a computer is as large as a classroom, doing slow computation and impossible for normal people to afford. 20 to 30 years later, the personal computer came to the world. People now can type, compute and even draw on the computer in their own room! The size of those computer is small and appropriate for a bedroom. Then, the Pocket Personal Computer, as known as the PPC, made the computer even small. The PPC was an early version of smartphone, on which you can install apps, browsing Internet, and even talk to others. Later, the story was known by everybody. The smartphones were invented, and the tablet got into people’s eyes. Now people may find that, they barely use those huge machines to do computing and other work, and they abandon the desktop, and even their laptop. The smartphones can do everything. I want to research on this trend and find if there any interest things that I can know.

Then I start to search for the evidence. The outcome matches what I thought. Because of the developing technology, people can make the CPUs and other chips smaller and smaller. Furthermore, in the past people have heavy and large laptops and phones because the CPUs will generate large amount of heat during working, so they need fans to cool them down. However, because of the producing technology, people now can control the thermal performance of the chips so they can do it even without fans. In that theory, the desktop was going to be replaced by the laptop, the laptop is going to be replaced by the tablet, and the tablet is going to be replaced by the phones. I can probably predict what future looks like after do the research!

**Independent Research Paper Entry II**

Another topic also derived from my life. My father is a Computer Engineer and his job is developing the software for the restaurants. When I was a child the software was simple and confusing to use. The waiters have to use “Order Devices” to make orders, which is a little bit larger than the smartphone today. The kitchen will receive the signals from the order machine and print out what is the next order. Later, the tablets get into the restaurants. The tablets have bigger screens and easy to show customers how the food looks like. They will put a tablet on the table so people can check out he food and order by their own. The benefits are apparent. Less waiters are needed because the customers can do many things on their own and the expensive tablets can leave customers with a good impression. In the current China, the small restaurants abandon the menus and just put a QR code on the table. Customers just scan the code on their phone and the menu will pop up. The technology has both customers and restaurants do things easier and better.

After taking research on the related essays, I find several papers talking about that. The new technology save the cost of the restaurant and they are more customer-friendly. Some research indicates that the new technology also make the waiting time less. For example, the Starbucks have the online order menu in their App. People no longer need to wait in lines. They just tap on their phones on the way to the store and pick up. The new technology help every do things better in the restaurants.

**Independent Research Paper Entry III**

As inspired by the essay one, which have a topic of communication barrier, I find the communication might also be a good topic. Especially it is important that have a good communication with boyfriends and girlfriends. The boyfriends and girlfriends are who people must communicate every day. However, does the communication works fine in the most circumstances? For me, I often have quarrel with my girlfriends. I cannot tell how she thought and she probably cannot tell what I thought as well. That makes curious: what prevent a good communication in a relationship? Is that gender difference and how to bypass that? If I can have some findings, it will not only help me do the paper but also help me the deal with the relationship in the daily life!

After searching on the Internet I find the answer might be no. Because of the gender difference, men and women focus on the different things in their life. The women prefer their personal feelings instead of the reasons and principals, which men usually focus on. So in a quarrel men and women only talk what they think is important and refuse to listen to others. Consequently, it is very easy to get a relationship worse. A good communication works perfect in keeping a good relationship. In the future search I will focus more on the gender difference to figure out more reason that negatively affects communication.