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 new highly virulent outbreak of ransomware

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

Ransomware is a malicious software that locks up computer files with all but unbreakable encryption and then demands a ransom for its release. Ransomware affects all organizations and individuals that have access to computers since Ransomware attacks computing systems.

**Level 2: Canada & Other Countries**

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

From the Ransomware attack, in Canada, a hospital in Oshawa was affected, a Canadian intelligence agency was affected and a number of organizations and individuals in Canada were affected.

1. How badly was Canada affected?

Canada was affected pretty severely since a hospital in Oshawa was attacked but the hospital technology was able to withstand the breach and no information from the hospital was compromised and an intelligence agency was affected by this attack too which could’ve leaked information of who knows what. Canada in this worldwide attack was affected worse than other countries.

1. What other countries were affected?

Some other countries that were affected are Ukraine, Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom, Taiwan, Canada, and Germany.

**Level 3: Canada & Other Countries**

1. Where did the attack come from?

The attack was apparently sown in Ukraine

1. Why was the attack started?

The cyberattack was started when they took over the computers were taken over, encrypted the information on them and demanded a payment of $300 or more from users to unlock their devices.

1. How was the attacked stopped?

The ransomware attack was stopped by using a kill switch, which is a mechanism for turning off a device of software remotely. A kill switch is a way for the operator to terminate their connection to the software. A piece of malware will often run its control communication across multiple unregistered internet domains. By changing the domains it uses, the software can thwart attempts to understand or neutralize it.

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

I could be affected by a ransomware attack by the virus spreading around maybe my area and perhaps into my computer. The ransomware could lock my computer down and ask for a certain amount of money and until I pay it, it will keep my computer locked.

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

I can protect myself against a ransomware attack by switching my internet domains since that is a method of the kill switch or I could get an anti-malware downloaded onto my computer.