Steam,

Growing up with you and experiencing the joy you have given me was nice, but I think you knew this was coming. Lately you have teased me so much with all the sales that are going on, 75% here 90% there, showing special prices at launch. I just do not have the time I once had to enjoy you.

We used to be able to spend weekends from Friday to Sunday night together, ordering Domino’s, playing Sid Meier’s Civilization, Age of Empires, but now? We hardly see each other, when I do have time, I’m just looking at the collection we’ve grown. You’re always tempting me to try this new game or when I do have time, you give me a 10-minute update. What is this?

It’s not that we are not for each other, but the time has come. You have all the sales and games, and I do not have the hours to dedicate to you like I once had. Responsibilities are here now, laundry, 0500 wake up, school, did I mention bills? All the time we use to spend up to the early hours in the morning just are not possible.

Not to make this long, hopefully this is not forever, but this must happen. We just are not a good fit anymore, who knows, one day a new younger version will log on. Then you can show all the retro games we have collected and show the mini-me the great times that games can bring to a kid.

**Reflection Questions:**

* Why did you choose the particular operating system or application for your letter?

I chose this application because I truly spent many years enjoying video games. While steam is not the sole gaming application I played, I did not want to introduce conflict to my other applications.

* What emotions did you feel while writing the letter?

I did feel a few tears try to enter because I truly do not have time to play games anymore at 30. I try to fit them in here and there, but my job calls for much attention, also my wife (ha-ha).

* How does this activity reflect the role that technology plays in our lives?

Technology obviously plays a major role in everyone’s life now. Hobbies are made through technology, learning is now happening through technology and videos, and many people’s day to day life rely on the minicomputers in our hands or pockets.

I know technology has affected me since the N64 came out, and since then I have taken apart and put together many electronics just to try to understand them more. I will never be an electrical engineer or someone who creates motherboards, but I like to see how small machines get compared to years ago.

* Did the process of writing the letter help you better understand your feelings toward the technology you interact with?

No, I know that for me not even including phones, I dedicated much time to computer screens. I have had maybe 8 laptops and at least 4 desktop computers in my life. I have filled up over 8TB of storage not including backups. Sometimes I catch myself not wanting to rely so much on my home setups, but I always log back on to complete some type of task.