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 malicious software that locks up a computer’s files with an all-but-unbreakable encryption that demands a ransom for its release. It is dangerous when a computer gets one and should be removed as soon as possible. A ransomware attack is usually done by people who are trying to rob people, such as get money or to tell them to meet somewhere.

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

Ransomware works by locking up different files in the computer. It demands money or other valuable things. It affects companies as they may lose information from their customers. For example, if Netflix were to be hit by a ransomware, the company may lose information as they may need to reinstall programs or the person attacking Netflix with a ransomware may get credit-card details and personal information.

**Level 2: Canada & Other Countries**

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

Lakeridge Health, from Oshawa, was affected from Canada. Lakeridge Health is one of Ontario’s largest Community hospitals.

1. How badly was Canada affected?

Canada was not badly affected as the ransomware was removed. Also, Lakeridge Health was the only place in Canada to be affected. It was said that multiple organizations and individuals were affected but none of them came forth. Lakeridge Health had a antivirus, so the ransomware was removed anyways with no harm to their computers.

1. What other countries were affected?

Almost 100 countries were affected. Some include the networks and computers that run Britain’s hospital network, Germany’s national railway, and scores of other companies and government agencies worldwide.

**Level 3: Attack Details**

1. Where did the attack come from?

The attack’s origins remain unclear.

1. Why was the attack started?

The attack was started as an individual or group of people were trying to steal money, $300 exactly, from many people around the world. They would of have made so much money if the threat wasn’t stopped by many people.

1. How was the attacked stopped?

People updated their computers, antiviruses had stopped the virus when it was received, or people went to computer shops to get their computers fixed.

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

You can be affected by a ransomware attack if your computer is not updated and if your computer does not have an antivirus. Old software versions usually get attacked the most as they do not have the latest security features in their computer. Also, an antivirus can help with protecting your computer when a virus/ransomware is trying to attack.

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

Updating your computer as soon as possible and downloading good and trusted antivirus dan help you protect yourself from a ransomware attack. Usually, new updates have something which protect you from ransomwares. Antiviruses can help with stopping ransomware attacks if one even tries to attack your computer.