Read the following resources before answering the questions below:

1. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-commentary/cryptocurrencys-crash-is-a-matter-of-when-not-if/article37257013/>
2. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/hut8-medicine-hat-bitcoin-mining-1.4834027>
3. <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-42237432>

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: Bitcoin & Cryptocurrencies**

List three ways that “cryptocurrencies” (e.g. Bitcoin) are different from traditional currencies (money).  
1. They are virtual

1. Easier to use
2. Not issued by banks or government

* List one advantage of Bitcoin over on-line payment services such as PayPal.

1. More convenient and much easier to use

* List three types of organizations (or types of users) that would benefit in a positive way from the use of “cryptocurrencies”.

1. Hackers
2. Social media company’s
3. Normal users

* Bitcioin claims to be anonymous. Is this true (explain)? How could someone find out your identity?  
  1. If you buy something the recipient of your bitcoin payment can identify the sending adress
* Many people claim that the use of "cryptocurrencies" should be restricted because they make it easier for criminals to hide their actions. Is this a valid point of view? Write a SOP to support your arguement.

It is a valid point of view because hackers can go on the dark web and still use crypto currencies while still using them for everyday things. No one will even know that they bought anything illegal.

**Level 2: Bitcoin & The Environment**

1. What is a Bitcoin “miner” and how big is the Hut-8 facility in the city of Medicine Hat Alberta?

* Its someone that adds transaction records to bitcoins ledger or of past transactions or blockchain
* Hut-8 is 4½-hectare

1. Why has Hut-8 decided to locate its facility in Alberta when its head office is in Toronto? What does the city of Medicine Hat provide that is required for mining Bitcoin?

* It needs lots of electricity to work
* It is in alberta because they have lots of energy plants in alberta

1. What benefits does the city of Medicine Hat expect to see from this Bitcoin facility?

* It attracts business by offering low cost energy

1. What concern does the city of Medicine Hat have about from this Bitcoin facility?

* That it is using to much power from the city

1. What concern do environmentalists have about the Medicine Hat facility and about Bitcion mining in general? E.g. how does Bitcoin mining harm the environment?

* It uses lots of energy like fossil fuels and which pollutes air and water and green house gasses

1. If Hut-8 wanted to build a facility in Brampton, would be in favor of this proposal. Write a SOP to justify your position.

* I don’t think they should build a facility in Brampton because all of the energy we have will be used up by the facility. Brampton will be a lot more dirty and grimy because of all the pollution that the facility will cause due to the high energy use.

**Level 3: Mobile Payments**

1. Explain how you could use social media to make payments for things you buy in the store.

* If you click on a add on social media it can take you to a store and you can use tools like paypal to buy things

1. List three ways that social media payments are a positive thing.

* Extends where you can shop
* Convenient
* Less carbon footprint because you don’t have to drive a car

1. List three ways that social media payments are a negative thing.

* Can over spend
* Some people don’t like adds
* Only see things that are related to you

1. Is Canada ahead of or behind other countries in the use of mobile payments? Explain your answer.

* I would say we are because we have things like paypal and apple pay which make payments a lot more easier and convenient

1. In your opinion, should mobile payments be allowed in Canada? Write a SOP to justify your position.

* I think they should because some people may be to tired or not be able to go out to the store and shop so they can very easily order something online anywhere they are