Writing Assignment, Part 2.

In part 1 of the writing assignment, we analyzed two replies A&C gave to the argument that AI could be used to enhance autonomy. You gave argument maps and prose restatements. Here are mine, for reference:

1. **Argument of A&C §4 ¶5**: AI use may be able to help people further enhance those skills, but it can do so only if the people have already developed their skills sufficiently. Since students have not developed the skills of writing college papers, using AI (1) will not help them further enhance their skills, and (2) may prevent them from developing their skills in the first place. Argument Map.

2. **Argument of A&C §4 ¶6**: Even if AI use could sometimes be used to enhance autonomy, it still may not be wise for students to use AI, because they might succumb to the temptation to use AI in ways that do *not* enhance their autonomy. This temptation can come from multiple sources, including the difficulty of assignments like college essays, the pressure to get good grades to be competitive in precarious economic conditions, and inadequate explanation from teachers of the value of education. Argument Map.

Assignment: Choose *one* of the two arguments above. Then, write a paper explaining and critiquing the argument.

Your essay should be written in six sections, as indicated below. It is okay if each section is only a single paragraph long. In fact, given the word limits, most of your sections will probably be limited to a paragraph. I *highly recommend* that you read the sample essay I've written, as a model for your essay. Click here for a sample essay.

1. **Introduction.** This section should do three things: (1) it should introduce the argument you will be discussing, (2) it should state your position, and (3) it should give your plan. There is no need for the introduction to do anything other than these three things.

2. **Exposition of the argument you will be discussing**. In this paragraph, restate what you take to be the clearest and best version of the argument that you will be discussing. This is essentially the "restatement in prose" from part 1 of the writing assignment. Ideally, in this section you also give a numbered-list argument reconstruction of the argument (it need not involve logic machines).

3. **Critique of the argument**. In this section, present a critique of the argument. Note that this should not simply be a reason to think that the conclusion is untrue. Rather, it should be a reason to think that the *argument* for the conclusion does not work. You could think the argument is not truth-preserving (it is invalid), or that one of the premises is false (it is unsound).

4. **Proposed modification to the argument**. In this section, suggest a way in which a proponent of the argument might respond to your critique. Is there a way to strengthen the argument to avoid your critique? Is there a way to modify the conclusion so that it works even given your critique? Do you think there is a *better* argument for the conclusion of the argument you are discussing?

5. **Discussion: When (if ever) should students avoid using AI?** In this section, discuss how your criticism and proposed modification helps us think about the question "when (if ever) should students avoid using AI"?

6. **Conclusion.** Optionally, *briefly* summarize what you've done in the paper.

Submission Guidelines and Instructions

1. **How to Submit:** Please write your essay in Google Docs and submit a link to your Google Docs document in the text box for the Canvas Assignment, making sure that I have at least *comment* access to the document.

2. **Deadline:** Your deadline is 12 days after you receive feedback from me on your resubmission for Writing Assignment Part 2, although I encourage you to submit sooner I will indicate the specific date of your deadline when I give you the resubmission feedback.

3. **Length:** The paper should be between **700 and 1000 words**. These word limits are *strict* (if you send me a paper longer than 1000 words or shorter than 700, I will send it back to you and tell you to resubmit). Footnotes are included in this wordcount, but the works-cited list is not.

4. **Citation Format:** I won't enforce any particular citation format. You probably will only have to cite Aylsworth and Castro, which you can do by copying the citation in my sample essay.

5. **Essay Formatting:** The document should be formatted in Georgia 12pt font, 1.5 line spacing, left-justified, 1-inch margins. Section headers should be bolded. (If you like, you can copy the format of my sample essay, which already has these specifications.) Take some care to meet these guidelines, but don't worry *too* much. The content is more important. Note: my sample essay is in the correct format, so you could copy my Google Doc template.

Argument Map (for your process only — do not submit!)

As you write your essay, I recommend that you create an argument map in argumentation.io, which maps the argument you are responding to in **green**, and maps your critique in **red**. **You do not need to submit an argument map.** If you'd like to use an argument map, here are some guidelines:

1. For the argument you are responding to, you can simply start with the argument map you already made for part 1 of the writing assignment.

2. You are responding to a *single* argument. So if there are multiple arguments in your argument map, delete all of them except the one you are responding to (this means that *every* premise should only have one line coming out underneath it (although boxes can have multiple premises inside them).

3. You do *not* have to include any material from your proposed modification (§4 of your essay) or discussion (§5 of your essay). If you want to map your modification, it may be cleaner to do this in a separate argument map.

4. [Click here for sample argument map.](#)