From Issue to Persuasion

1-7 Assignment

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My major is Computer Science and I want to work in the gaming industry, so I focused on these two subjects for this assignment. For the first issue I chose whether programmers should work from an office or remote. I do understand both sides of this argument. On one side people feel like they should work from an office for several reasons. It keeps the team in a social environment which can be mentally healthy. The team can work in close proximity, so it makes it easier for them to solve problems together. It’s easier to hold everybody accountable for their own work as the management of the company will be able to watch everything going on. It’s easier to hold meetings as everybody is already there and don’t have to rely on internet connections, and so on.

The other side of this argument is how programmers should work from home remotely. In some cases there is more productivity when people work from the comfort of their own home. Stress levels are lower. People have the opportunity to get other things done at home while they are working. They don’t have to worry about buying lunch because they can eat at home. They don’t feel the pressure of somebody looking over their shoulder. All around members of the team are generally more relaxed and enjoy their jobs. In some cases though, some people will look at this as an opportunity to be lazy and get less work done. It all depends on how people work in certain environments.

The second issue for this assignment I chose is can video games be harmful or helpful. On the side of harmful, there has always been a stigma around video games. In todays world video games are a lot more accepted and common as a study shows that 95% of children and young adults use this form of entertainment but it wasn’t always that way. There are several reason for this. People believe that it can cause laziness, addiction, and neglecting responsibilities. People also believe that it is just all around bad for your health. That statement can be true if you don’t take care of yourself. I have myself seen people that do nothing but play video games so that is bad for your health. But is it the games' fault or the person's personality? The main issue that comes up around all of this is people believe that they cause violent tendencies. As video games took some of the blame for the columbine and sandy hook shootings. But again, how much of that can you blame on a video game. If the people committing violent crimes already have the violent tendencies then I can see why video games would be bad for them but I don’t see where they are the root of the problem. In saying this I can say that I am biased in this opinion as I am an avid video game lover but I feel that my argument is logical.

On the other side of this discussion, Are video games helpful? There is actually a lot of research that shows they can be. Video games are good for hand eye coordination. They are used in schools, jobs, and even military training and have been proven useful. They can be educational in other ways too. Some games teach history and science. Mind you, it is good to be able to determine fact from fiction but I have witnessed a lot of facts and truth in games. Video games can help with reading as well as most games involve reading. They are also good for reaction time. Video games are good in moderation. Too much of anything is a bad thing. You still have to take care of yourself and your responsibilities and as long as you are doing that I don’t see any harm in playing. Plenty of people have made a career by playing them for an audience on a streaming service, creating them, and they have even become a sport with teams and large cash prizes. There are also several ways that people raise large amounts of money for charities using video games.

For my final persuasion essay I want to choose the issue revolving around video games are harmful or helpful. I am more on the side of them being helpful as they do a lot of good in the world. Although I do agree that they can be harmful in certain situations and I fully understand and respect the opinions on the other side of this argument. This would be a good topic for people in my same field because it is technology based on not all but a lot of people that are pursuing this degree are looking for careers in the video game field and chances are they probably play games themselves.