# **Set Up for Success Assessment**

For this assignment, you will gather information now to help you construct an argumentative essay later. Remember, you are just gathering information and getting your essay started–you are not writing an entire essay here! As a reminder, here is the essay prompt:

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| Select a topic or issue you are interested in that has two sides. Create a "should" question that allows for an examination of the issue's opposing perspectives.  Should [insert topic or issue] be [insert action or solution]?  Write an argumentative essay that takes a clear position on your issue and uses valid reasoning and credible evidence from sources to support your argument. Maintain an objective and respectful tone, focusing on the presentation of evidence and logical reasoning rather than emotional appeals. Demonstrate critical thinking skills and the ability to engage in a well-reasoned debate while adhering to the principles of academic writing. |

**Directions:** Fill in the information for each section. All answers must be written in complete sentences.

**Step 1:** Audience & Topic

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| **Audience** | This essay is for the people who are interested in the impact of technology on society, including educators, policy makers, and readers who want to engage in discussions about technology's role in education. |
| **Topic** | The impact of technology on education and whether it should be more heavily integrated into the classroom. |
| **Pose a Question** | *Should [insert topic or issue] be [insert action or solution]?*  Should technology be more heavily integrated into the classroom? |

**Step 2:** Research

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|  | **Yes, [Topic] Should…** | **No, [Topic] Shouldn't** |
| **Perspective**  *What does the research reveal about this side's perspective?* | **Research indicates that using technology in classrooms can enhance the engagement of students, enable personalized learning, and offer exposure to a variety of resources that support learning.** | **Research shows that students can become dependent on classroom technology that can have the impacts of reduced critical thinking, reduced face-to-face interaction, and excessive emphasis on passive learning.** |
| **Key Points**  *What are the supporting points from the research?* | * **Technology allows for personalized learning experiences tailored to the needs of individual students.** * **Digital tools and online platforms enable real-time feedback, improving learning outcomes.** * **Technology helps students develop skills needed for the modern workforce, including problem-solving and digital literacy.** * **It can bridge gaps in access to educational resources, particularly for underserved communities.** | * **Technology can be distracting and may decrease ability to focus.** * **Over reliance on digital tools may hinder the development of social and communication skills.** * **Studies show that excessive screen time can lead to health problems such as eye strain, headaches, and sleep issues.** * **Technology may exacerbate inequality, as not all students have equal access to devices or internet services.** |
| **Source Citations and Explanation of Reliability** | *Source #1 MLA Citation:*  *Source: Phillipson, Bridget. "Bridget Phillipson Eyes AI's Potential to Free Up Teachers' Time." The Guardian, 31 Mar. 2025,* [*www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/mar/31/bridget-phillipson-eyes-ais-potential-to-free-up-teachers-time*](http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/mar/31/bridget-phillipson-eyes-ais-potential-to-free-up-teachers-time)*.​*  *The Guardian is a reputable news organization known for its in depth explanation of technological advancements in education. Bridget Phillipson, the Education Secretary, provides reliable insights into AI's role in reducing teachers' administrative burdens.*  *Why is this source reliable?* | *Source #3 MLA Citation:*  *"Teachers Warn AI Is Impacting Students' Critical Thinking." Axios, 30 Mar. 2025,* [*www.axios.com/2025/03/30/teachers-ai-students-critical-thinking*](http://www.axios.com/2025/03/30/teachers-ai-students-critical-thinking)  *Axios is a trusted news source that reports on current educational challenges, including concerns about AI's effect on critical thinking skills among students.*  *Why is this source reliable?* |
| *Source #2 MLA Citation:*  *"How Important Is Technology in Education?" School of Education Online, American University,* [*https://soeonline.american.edu/blog/technology-in-education/*](https://soeonline.american.edu/blog/technology-in-education/)  *American University's School of Education is a recognized institution, and this article offers research on how technology enhances student engagement and learning outcomes.*  *Why is this source reliable?* | *Source #4 MLA Citation:*  *"Books In, AI Out: Schools Ditch Tech in Massive Shakeup." The Advertiser, 31 Mar. 2025,* [*www.adelaidenow.com.au/south-australia-education/st-ignatius-college-students-at-athelstone-norwood-log-off-for-tech-smart-tuesday/news-story/4398e8a8c4652fa4b57ffcee955dc34a*](http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/south-australia-education/st-ignatius-college-students-at-athelstone-norwood-log-off-for-tech-smart-tuesday/news-story/4398e8a8c4652fa4b57ffcee955dc34a)*.*  *The Advertiser provides a detailed perspective of schools re-evaluating technology use, offering to reduce screen time and promote traditional learning methods.*  *Why is this source reliable?* |

**Step 3:** Claim, Counterclaim, Thesis, and Introduction Paragraph

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| **Claim**  One Sentence | **Technology should be more heavily integrated into classrooms because it enhances student learning through personalized education, access to resources, and improved engagement.** |
| **Counterclaim**  One Sentence | **On the other hand, excessive use of technology in the classroom can reduce critical thinking, impede social interaction, and contribute to health problems for students.** |
| **Thesis**  One Sentence | **Despite the problems with too much use of technology in schools, there needs to be more use in classrooms because there is the possibility to enhance learning and prepare the students better to be successful in the future.** |
| **Introduction Paragraph**  Your introduction should be a minimum of five sentences in length and follow the format from the lesson. | **Technology in the modern day has become part and parcel of daily life and has a crucial role to play in teaching and learning. Despite claims that technology distracts and can hinder human interaction, there is a strong argument to be made in its favor. Technology has the capacity to adapt learning to meet the needs of the learner and to offer instant feedback to the student. However, its negative effects in terms of reduced critical thinking and poor health cannot be overlooked. The essay will consider both arguments and conclude that technology should be used far more in classrooms to improve learning and allow the student to adapt better to the age of technology.** |

# **Set Up for Success Rubric**

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|  | **On Target** | **Almost There** | **Needs Improvement** |
| **Audience, Topic, and Research Question**  **(10 points)** | **10-8 points**   * The audience is clearly identified and described. * The topic is identified. * The "should" question has at least two distinct perspectives that can be answered with and supported by research. | **7-6 points**   * The audience is identified and there's a limited description. * The topic is identified. * The "should" question may not have two distinct perspectives that can be answered with and supported by research. | **5-0 points**   * The audience is not identified, or it's identified and not described. * The topic is not arguable, or the sides can't be supported by research. * The "should" question may be missing. |
| **Research**  **(10 points)** | **10-8 points**   * The perspective and key points sections are fully filled out with clear details. * All four sources have full citation information. * There are two reliable sources on each side of an argument. | **7-6 points**   * The perspective and key points sections are mostly filled out with some details. * Most citation information is complete. * There are two sources on each side of the argument. | **5-0 points**   * Little or no citation information is complete. * There are fewer than two sources on each side of the argument. * The research chart is incomplete. |
| **Claim, Counterclaim, and Thesis**  **(10 points)** | **10-8 points**   * The claim is one sentence long and clearly stated. * The counterclaim is one sentence long and clearly stated. * The thesis is one sentence and includes both the claim and counterclaim as outlined in the lesson. | **7-6 points**   * The claim is stated. * The counterclaim is stated. * The thesis is one sentence but does not address the counterclaim. | **5-0 points**   * The claim is confusing or missing. * The counterclaim is confusing or missing. * The thesis is more than one sentence or does not clearly address the claim. |
| **Introduction**  **(10 points)** | **10-8 points**   * The introduction meets length and format requirements. * The introduction is engaging, presents the topic, and touches on both the claim and counterclaim. | **7-6 points**   * The introduction meets length and format requirements. * The introduction presents the topic and touches on both the claim and counterclaim. | **5-0 points**   * The introduction does not meet length and format requirements. * The introduction is off topic or does not address the claim and counterclaim. |
| **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics**  **(10 points)** | **10-8 points**   * All responses are written in complete sentences. * Standard grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure rules are followed with minimal errors. | **7-6 points**   * Most responses are written in complete sentences. * Standard grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure rules are followed with some errors that do not impede readability. | **5-0 points**   * Few or no responses are written in complete sentences. * Standard grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure rules are not followed, and this affects readability. |