The effect of technology on the world

Does the improvement of technology make life easier or does it destroy the essential characteristics that define us as human? In the article, *Why I Am Not Going To Buy a Computer,* you discuss your perspective on the improvement of technology and its effect on us and the environment in order to support your decision of not buying a computer. Overall we are against the improvement of technology because it harms the main components that build us. We believe that technology doesn’t make an individual a stronger writer and technology indirectly harms the environment.

Wendell, you’re right in your accusation of technological innovation, specifically the excessive spread of computers. Technology (computers) decreases an individual’s writing potential. In elementary school my teacher would always make us write our rough draft essays, peer edit them and write the final draft all on paper. In middle school my teachers began to allow the use of computers to type essays. I found using computers easier than writing on paper because it identified my mistakes and gave options for the corrections. I began to use computers for every portion of my writing assignments. On the day of my English exam I was very confident because I hardly found grammatical errors in my previous writing assignments (they were typed). When I received my exam grades I discovered that I had gained a C on the English exam because I had over 30 grammatical errors on the writing portion. For the writing portion we had to use paper, a material that was foreign to me ever since I met a computer. I had learned my lesson.

An innovation is an improvement of the original invention if it is the same size or smaller than the original. In the article you write your standards for technological innovation “1. The new…community relationships.” As of now you’re requirements are impossible to reach in the perspective of technological improvements. As more innovations are created they might be easier to use but more difficult to fix which prevents them from being fixed by a person of ordinary intelligence. They will also create more ways that family and community and relationships can be used negatively and positively. You were not being realistic in your requirements for an innovation you were fantasizing.

Another reason that your accusation of technological innovation relating to the spread of computers is correct is because it indirectly harms the environment. You wrote “I would hate to think that my work as a writer could not be done without a direct dependence on strip-mined coal.” Computers use electricity. The main source of electricity is coal which comes from the bottom of mountains. The method miners use to gain coal is by blowing up mountains. A demand on computers leads to a dependence on coal. This leads to more mountains being destroyed in the search for coal. In conclusion, technology is improving the world, and destroying it simultaneously. We support your indictment of technology.