As we read Wendell Berry’s article on computers, we find that he makes good points, but we still disagree. He made valid arguments on the environmental costs of using technology and also that he has a flaw in his judgment that makes certain arguments invalid. As Berry affirms, technology can do more harm than good in certain circumstances, but in others technology can do better things.

First, Berry states that the costs of computers are not worth the expense. The financial cost of a computer is a valid argument. With the steady update of each new technological model, coming about every eight teen months, we are pressured to have the next best computer model on the market. This is harmful because each one is more expensive and we just throw away the older model, causing us to give up more money every time we buy a new one. Besides the financial costs, there are the costs of losing workers. Berry would lose his wife checking his work to a computer’s editing program. Today people can lose workers due to computer replacements because computers are more efficient. For example, in the medical fields, there is technology that can get data and information to doctors that can help their patients immediately. With the efficiency of the computers, people do lose their jobs.

Berry makes accusations of computers’ environmental effects which cannot be undone. Greenhouse gases are increasing as more computers and other technological advancements are being made because per fluorocarbons are released as they make computer chips, and sulfur hexafluoride is released when miners acquire the magnesium and aluminum that is used in most technology.

One of Berry’s main points is that people are starting to use technology as a crutch in learning. In society today, people are becoming more dependent on computers and calculators. People don’t go to the library and research using books anymore. We use our computers and find answers through search engines, which can’t get us all the information we need. We forget our multiplication tables we learned because we are dependent on calculators for every little math problem.

Lastly, Berry’s arguments are personal. He argues some of his arguments with evidence that people other than he could rarely relate. Only people in his same situation could relate. While his wife and he share a great partnership of how he writes and she checks, not everyone has someone to do that for them. He also makes the statement that people today are influenced to buying and using computers. When Berry says that he makes the impression that we wouldn’t use computers otherwise, for with his mindset, he does not see computers as a useful tool that people would seek out.

In conclusion, we disagree with Berry because we see the computer and other technology as a useful tool and a way to acquire information quickly. Although he made honest statements regarding the negative side of computers and technology, there are more positives that outweigh the negatives.