Dear Editors of Harper’s,

We recently read Mr. Berry’s article, “Why I Am Not Going to Buy a Computer,” which was published in your magazine last week. In his article, Mr. Berry lists several reasons he believes that computers are of no use to him. For instance, he states that “He is hooked to the energy corporations,” which he does not admire.

We understand Mr. Berry’s issue that purchasing a computer will affect his daily life. Personally, however, we believe that a computer would actually provide greater rewards than negative outcomes.

Although Mr. Berry wants to save energy, he has possibly actually wasted more resources than the amount he might use with a computer. In his article, he states “How could I write conscientiously against the rape of nature if I were, in the act of writing, implicated in the rape?” Even though Mr. Berry states he doesn’t want to harm the Earth, he might be harming nature more by writing and using a typewriter than by typing on a computer. He uses the graphite and wood that is taken from nature to make a pencil or plastic and ink for pens and the wood used to make paper that is constantly used to make his rough drafts, when he could just use the electrical energy and paper needed to print an item only once by using the computer.

Even though Mr. Berry might become dependent upon the computer, this might take some stress off of his wife; it would be easier to make connections with others and get work done faster, helping him to meet deadlines more easily. He seems to think that using a computer will make him dependent on it, but he doesn't have to completely depend upon the computer; he can still use his own methods and common ways. This allows him his own free will in the creation of his work, but will also allow him the possibility to complete his final drafts on a computer.

One question Mr. Berry’s article poses is whether technology is doing more harm than good. We personally believe that computers are doing good for both nature and the human race. Computers, as is stated above, help minimize wasting of resources. This invention, an advance in technology, also allows one to work at any point in time instead of being dependent on the hours of the day. The computer also allows one to connect with others, providing him or her with more resources.

Overall, we believe computers are an important tool in the advancement of the human race because it gives people many tools to use, saves a lot of time, and, also, cuts down on the use of many resources that most people use when they don’t have the use of technology. It is convenient and comes in handy when it is really needed; therefore, it is more good to the human race than it is harmful.