Dear Mr. Berry:

Is the incorporation of computers and technology essential to our lives? Is it a necessity? After reading your essay, “Why I Am Not Buying a Computer”, the words of Albert Einstein, a German born physicist, come to mind. He stated, “It has become appallingly obvious that our technology has exceeded our humanity.” These words speak volumes because we have come to rely tremendously on technology, and as a result have changed the way we inherently are. Technology is not a bad thing; however, we must not develop a dependence for it and be prepared for any issues that may arise if we utilize technology.  
 In your essay, you gave several reasons why you preferred not to utilize technology. Despite people telling you that buying a computer would greatly improve things for you, you refused because it would cost more money than you could afford and, “It is well understood that technological innovation always requires the discarding of the ‘old model’.” I do agree that utilizing technology can greatly improve some aspects of our lives, but doing so does come with a hefty price tag. The reason is once that technological device has become obsolete, it becomes expensive to replace. For instance, today we have mobile devices such as cellular phones, tablets, and iPads. After a period of time, these devices become obsolete and must be replaced, which can be very costly to do and we end up spending more money than we previously spent.

Another argument that you presented is that once issues arise with computers, the possible solutions become problems. It was said that, “The new tool should be cheaper than the one it replaces.” I wholeheartedly agree with this statement. If I were to replace something because of a technical issue, I would not want to spend more money on a replacement for something that I expected to be durable. You also stated, “it should do work that is clearly and demonstrably better than the one it replaces.” This claim is also valid and brings me back to my previous statement regarding having to spend money on a replacement. If I must do so, I want a better product than that which is being replaced.

In addition to previously mentioned arguments you presented, I agree with your statement, “It should not replace or disrupt anything good that already exists, and this includes family and community relationships.” Although the use of mobile devices makes it convenient to contact family and friends when you are on the go, messenger services such as text messages, can take away from interpersonal relationships because there will be no time for face-to-face interactions. Interpersonal communication is needed to form and build relationships and friendships with others.

In conclusion, you presented a sound argument regarding the use of computers and technology and the problems that may arise; however, integrating technology into our lives is okay if we remember not to solely depend on them in order to exist and simply live life.