WELCOME TO THE “BERRY” BEST ESSAY

“To cherish what remains of the Earth and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival.” – Wendell Berry. This is an excellent quote from Berry himself that perfectly captures his view on life. Computers became common in households around ten years ago, or in the 1980s. Since then, people have questioned Berry on his opinion, and why he has not transitioned to the more favorable choice of writers. His response, which will be listed below, has been largely critiqued by people from all over. Few agreed whole-heartedly and many disagreed and thought it their place to judge his opinion and lifestyle. Today, I will be analyzing the pros, the cons, and my own personal opinion.

The computer has many positive qualities: communication, easy accessibility to information, a faster way to type or write, and a simpler way to obtain entertainment. Using these machines we can send messages to our relatives and friends much faster than by mail. Instead of waiting for a week, or longer, we can send messages almost instantly. However, we see Wendell would rather wait. Getting information quicker and simpler should entice Wendell into possibly considering a computer, but that is still not the case. His problems with the computer overshadow this, especially since he would rather read from an actual book. You would think a quicker way to type his books would appeal to Wendell, but he states, “That he won’t fool himself into believing that having a computer will make him a better writer.” Berry also explains that he wants, nor needs, any entertainment from a machine. His main reasons for not wanting to participate in this popular use of technology are listed as following: destruction of nature and all living things, wasting money, and the ruining of close relationships. Wendell believes that computers and most of the technology available is destroying our environment. He believes that eventually it will kill us all, yet we are slowly beginning to let all of our lives rely on it. Would we even be able to live without it at all anymore? It’s a question that is hard to ask ourselves, and truly only time will tell. His beliefs also include that the newer model should be cheaper, if not it is just a waste. However, that is usually never the case, most of the time the newer, the more expensive. I can agree with his point but I do not believe that we can drastically lower the prices, otherwise the companies themselves would never make a profit. Lastly he states that technology basically drives wedges in relationships. I strongly disagree, the internet can bring people together, yes it could tear them apart but only if you choose to do so.

I mean no disrespect to this great author when I state that my opinion disagrees with his. I see the pros and I see the cons, but the pros outweigh the cons. I also would have to say that we could fix the big issue involving the environment, by using solar panels of some sort. If we just work to fix the issues instead of completely denying to use the technology, I think it could make a world of difference.