Dear Mr. Berry,

I would like to respond to your article *Why I Am Not Going to Buy a Computer* because I found some of your arguments on modern technology deeply flawed and I would like to address these issues below:

1. New technology should be cheaper than the one it replaces.
2. New technology should be clearly and demonstrably better than what it replaces.
3. New technology should use some form of solar energy, such as that of the body.

To begin, think about the cotton gin, tractors, plows, combines, and other equipment that changed the ways in which people produce and even consume food. Were those technological advancements cheaper than the things they replaced? Why are you complaining about the price of new technology when all throughout history most new technology that has made YOUR life easier as a famer been more expensive than what it replaced?

In your statement that technology should be demonstrably better than what it replaces, it is unwise to use computers as your primary example. Computers open up a new world of information, learning, and many other advancements. Is this not demonstrably better? Also, I understand that you value the relationship with your wife, given to you by that extra step in the writing process; however, I do not understand why that writing process would be changed by a computer. Could your wife not type on a computer, or edit on a computer, or critique your work on a computer? How could a computer negatively change the system you currently use and treasure? I would like to further challenge you to think about argument two and the medical world. Without penicillin, chemotherapy, and radiation good people would be dying every day! Think about this, what if (God forbid) your wife was diagnosed with cancer, would you not try and find her the best possible medicine? If it were not for the advancements in technology, how would new cancer medicines and treatments be researched, discovered, manufactured, and tested?

I do agree with your insistence on using solar energy to power technology, but you must understand that solar panels are made in factories powered by fossil fuels and also made of materials that are strip-mined. It is a cycle that cannot be escaped, no matter how hard you try. You are only seeing the benefits of solar energy and not considering what goes into creating solar panels.

I agree that modern technology leads to overconsumption and overdependence. You must understand that while much of our modern technology is devastating to the planet, it can also help save lives and increase our standard of living. Technology can be both a curse and blessing. Our country was built on the love of innovation and the yearning to help mankind. I would like to ask you to look for technology’s perks instead of its flaws and to reconsider some of your previous arguments and remember them for your next piece.

Respectfully,

Yours