Mr. Berry argues that he does not need a computer because it does not make him a better writer. He explains that the computer has not revolutionized his profession. He already has what he needs; a wife as an editor and a typewriter. Mr. Berry also wants to be very eco-friendly, referring to the “rape” of coal and natural resources. He wants to write in the daytime to save electricity.

In some circumstances, Mr. Berry’s argument is understandable. A person does not need a computer or even electricity to be a great writer, as proven by Shakespeare. In my opinion, I, a teenage writer, am crippled by computers. Tools like spell check and copy and paste make me too dependent on computers and I will not think for myself.

Although Berry makes logical points, his view is flawed. In his attempt to be eco-friendly, Berry never mentions that his pen and paper also take from nature. From his choices he helps cause deforestation. His bias against computers keeps him from exploring potential abilities of a computer. He gives reasons why he does not want computers but fails to recognize the ways computers could help his skills as a writer and his lifestyle. It is hard to accept an argument from someone who has failed to experience the subject they oppose.

Mr. Berry does accept technology that is up to his standards. His standards are as follows: It should be cheaper, to scale, work better, use less energy or even solar energy, be purchased and repairable locally by a commoner, and cannot disrupt or damage anything already good. Such technology does exist.

As a farmer, he does most of his work with horses; however, this is not the most efficient way. In the 1920s Henry Ford introduced his ninth vehicle called the Model T. The Model T was superior to using horses in several ways and I believe this does meet Mr. Berry’s standards. It cost $290 to purchase a Model T while it cost $487 dollars to purchase a horse buggy. Gas cost $ .20 a gallon, a horse had to be fed and sheltered at an approximate cost of $88 a year. The Model T had a 20 horsepower engine, could travel 13 to 21 miles per gallon, and could be converted to haul goods and plow. It could be purchased and repaired locally. People could now get together more easily to visit. Mr. Berry could argue that cars damage our environment much more than a horse. It is true that cars do pollute, but it is still more efficient and can be changed to be less harmful to the environment.

All in all Mr. Berry did not want a computer for personal and environmental reasons. He feels he does not need a computer because his wife and typewriter do the same job and he is being eco-friendly. However, because of his bias towards pen and paper he never gave computers a chance.