

### **Research Interview #1: My Mother**

The first person that I interviewed is my own mother, who agreed to answer my questions via email.

When I asked her when she first discovered computers and how she learned to use them, she responded by stating that she first discovered them when she was in elementary school in the early 1980's. She also mentioned that she purchased her first computer in 1992 and would use it to make posters to hang on her bedroom walls. She said that she bought an AOL free trial disc from Walgreens. The free trial discs allowed users to connect to the world wide web using dial-up.

When I asked her how computers played a huge role in her life, she responded stating that she used computers while attending college at the DeVry Institute of Technology. She said that she worked for Ameritech, which is now known as AT&T, where she spent 8 hours a day working with computers. Her current position at Blue Cross Blue Shield Illinois also involved an 8-hour shift involving computers. Blue Cross Blue Shield Illinois also provided her with a laptop so she could do her remote work on it. She also mentions that she spends her free time surfing the internet and reading social media posts on her computer.

When I asked her about how she believed that computers have shaped other people's lives, she responded stating that they are shaping everyone's lives by making everything available without leaving their homes. She mentioned that you could do research on a computer instead of having to go to the library. She mentioned that people could socialize with friends and family via email instead of mailing letters. She mentioned that people could shop without having to leave their house. She states that the recent pandemic had led to more people using computers for various tasks.

I asked her about what advancements in the technology of computers did she expect to see in a decade from now. She responded to the question by stating that she would like to see future computers being built upon the foundation of today's computers. She states that the technology inside computers have come a long way since the late 1970's. She mentions that there could be no physical machines as we know them, but instead advanced computing systems could fit on people's bodies like a piece of jewelry. She further elaborates by mentioning that people will continue to control the computers and that it is something that isn't likely to change in what lies ahead.

When I asked her about her thoughts on computers and other devices, she responded stating that she found computers to be "amazing". She states that the main reason that she believed computers are

amazing is because they are used to access the internet for finding any kind of information. She states that she found so much information on her college assignments when she attended DeVry for her homework. She adds on to that mentioning that if she didn't have a computer when she was a student, it would've been more stressful for her. She concluded her response by stating that "using computers helps everyone".

### **Research Interview #2: My Aunt**

The second person that I have interviewed for this project is my aunt. She has agreed to answer all of my questions via email. When I asked her when she first discovered computers and how she learned to use them, she responded by stating that she first discovered computers in the 1980's while in high school where they were offering a computer programming class to the students. She goes into further detail by mentioning that she was quite fascinated with learning about what computers could be used for and how to operate them. She mentioned that she learned how to create basic programs in the class. She described the experience as "a little difficult, but fun at the same time".

The second question that I've asked her was how did computers play a huge role in her life. She responded to the question by stating that they play a major role in her life because she uses them daily. She mentions that she does not think that she could function at her workplace or at home without a computer. She expands on that thought further by mentioning that computers make everyday tasks easier, efficient, and faster in her daily routine. She also mentions that without computers helping people, all tasks that are performed daily would be more difficult to complete.

The third question that I've asked her was how did she believe that computers have shaped other people's lives. She answers the question by stating that she truly believed that computers have brought people closer together. She states that it facilitates contacts between people by using email, chatting, video conferencing, and social medias. She expands on that thought by stating that they definitely help to save time and make life much easier for people. She mentions you could now do research on computers instead of having to go to a library. She also mentions that you could socialize with friends and family via email, as well as shopping for groceries, household items, clothing and electronics on computers without having to leave your house.

The fourth question that I've asked her was what advancements in the technology of computers did she expect to see in a decade from now. She answers the question by stating that the future of computers will

be so much more advanced than today's computers as programmers learn more and more about the technology. She mentions that there will exponential improvements of computer processing power, voice recognition, image recognition, and more in-depth learning. She states that everything is currently computer operated and that she is expecting more advancement in a decade from now. She also states that there could be no physical machines as we know them.

The fifth question that I've asked her was what were her thoughts on computers and other devices. She answers by stating that her main thought is that computers, cell phones, iPads, and other devices are the way of the future. She also states that technology has taken over the world for the good with the intent to make everyone's daily life so much easier to maneuver. She mentions that computers are used to access the internet for finding any kind of information, which she finds "amazing". She concludes the interview by mentioning that if she had any sort of question, she could her computer to access the internet in order to find the answer to anything.

### **Research Interview #3: My Cousin**

The third and final person that I've interviewed is my cousin. She has agreed to answer all of my questions via email. When I asked her when she first discovered computers and how she learned to use them, she answered by stating that she saw a first-generation Microsoft Gateway computer that belonged to my mother. She mentioned that she learned how to use a computer at the age of five (or six) and would receive adult supervision periodically to ensure that she was working the device properly. She also mentioned that she saw my aunt using a Microsoft desktop computer at her childhood apartment.

The second question that I've asked her about was how computers have played a huge role in her life. She responded by mentioning that my aunt helped her type out her first book report in the second grade. She mentioned that she started to rely on computers much more around the mid 2000's, when she started to use social media websites like Tagged and Myspace. She also mentioned that she would download music that she found online so she could put them on an MP3 player. She states that she would use the downloaded songs from the computer to make CDs of her favorite music artist.

The third question that I've asked her was how did she believe computers have shaped the lives of others. She responded by stating that computers have made an impact on us "ironically". She states that everyone needs the convenience of a computer or a laptop. She mentioned that society has advertised computers in

a way where it is a necessity in a home. She also mentioned that the pandemic has caused more people to rely on computers. She states that people relied on computers to work from home for two years and connect with family. She also states that people need laptops in order to check their email daily for work or leisure.

The fourth question that I've asked her was what advancements in the technology of computers does she expect to see in a decade from now. She responded by stating that she expects technology to evolve to another level. She stated that she expects upgraded features to be implemented on computers and laptops, such as sound quality and graphics on websites and other software. She also expects hands-free typing or other accommodations that help disabled or impaired people to be more common place in the future. To summarize, she expects technology in computers to advance to the point where there are impressive upgrades and accessibility options.

The fifth question that I've asked her was what were her thoughts on computers and other devices. She responds by mentioning that cell phones, tablets and other devices have helped generations function in society. She also mentions that phones, tablets and other devices have negatively impacted people today. She states that the average person has a ridiculous amount of screen time which affects the time that should be spent outdoors and socializing with family and friends. She expands on that thought further by mentioning that you would find people glued to their phones or other devices today at a family event and discussing social media gossip and trending topics.