Read the following resources before answering the questions below:

1. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-commentary/cryptocurrencys-crash-is-a-matter-of-when-not-if/article37257013/>
2. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/hut8-medicine-hat-bitcoin-mining-1.4834027>
3. <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-42237432>

Guidelines for writing a supported opinion paragraph (SOP)

* + <http://schools.peelschools.org/sec/fletchersmeadow/studentlife/OSSLTprep/Documents/Sample_%20Writing%20a%20Supported%20opinion%20paragraph.pdf>

**Level 1: Bitcoin & Cryptocurrencies**

1. List three ways that “cryptocurrencies” (e.g. Bitcoin) are different from traditional currencies (money).  
   **A.** One is a physical exchange of money while the other is a digital exchange of money.

**B.** Regular money is issued by the government while crypto currencies is made by CPU

**C.** Regular money has unlimited supply while the other has a maximum of money.

1. List one advantage of Bitcoin over on-line payment services such as PayPal.

Bitcoin trades money digitally while PayPal you have to use a card with a pin number.

1. List three types of organizations (or types of users) that would benefit in a positive way from the use of “cryptocurrencies”.

Xapo- headquarters in Hong Kong

ANX – In Hong Kong

BlockStream – In California US

1. Bitcioin claims to be anonymous. Is this true (explain)? How could someone find out your identity?

Bitcoin is anonymous but hackers that do not work in the company try to hack bitcoin servers for free money.

1. Many people claim that the use of "cryptocurrencies" should be restricted because they make it easier for criminals to hide their actions. Is this a valid point of view? Write a SOP to support your arguement.

Yes, crypto currencies should be restricted because it is very difficult to use money digitally for the older generation. Most people prefer to use a MasterCard or PayPal instead of bit coin. On the other hand, bit coin you have to exchange your money digitally which can be confusing to people who find new technology confusing. Also when a criminal robs a bank, you have insurance so you can still get all of your money back. Bit coin when it coins get stolen, you cannot get you money back. According to, [**https://money.howstuffworks.com/when-bitcoins-vanish-can-get-them-back.htm**](https://money.howstuffworks.com/when-bitcoins-vanish-can-get-them-back.htm)there have been people who have got their money stolen and still haven’t got paid and the criminal action happened a long time ago. Bit coin knows they have been hacked but they have not paid to the people who got hurt. In online exchange it is very hard who committed the crime because the criminal is anonymous. While when a bank, it is much easier to find who did it because it is a physical action and online doesn’t show who you are.

**Level 2: Bitcoin & The Environment**

1. What is a Bitcoin “miner” and how big is the Hut-8 facility in the city of Medicine Hat Alberta?

It is when they use a lot of electricity and energy to make bit coins. In Alberta more than 3,300 bit coins have been mined while on average they make 20 bit coins per day.

1. Why has Hut-8 decided to locate its facility in Alberta when its head office is in Toronto? What does the city of Medicine Hat provide that is required for mining Bitcoin?  
   They work in Alberta and their office is in Toronto because if they worked in Toronto, they may cause a blackout since a lot of people use energy in Toronto and Alberta has more energy not being used.
2. What benefits does the city of Medicine Hat expect to see from this Bitcoin facility?  
   The mayor get a lot of money from the facility because they use a lot of energy.
3. What concern does the city of Medicine Hat have about from this Bitcoin facility?  
   The facility is using too much energy and residents of Medicine Hat are worried about the amount of energy left in the city.
4. What concern do environmentalists have about the Medicine Hat facility and about Bitcion mining in general? E.g. how does Bitcoin mining harm the environment?  
   Environmentalist are worried about the energy left in the city because their electricity is produced by fossil fuels which are very low in the world.
5. If Hut-8 wanted to build a facility in Brampton, would be in favor of this proposal. Write a SOP to justify your position.

I think members of Hut-8 would be in favor because they would use up all of the energy and since Brampton is a very populated city there would be frequent black outs.

**Level 3: Mobile Payments**

1. Explain how you could use social media to make payments for things you buy in the store.

You use a platform like Facebook’s Messenger to transfer money.

1. List three ways that social media payments are a positive thing.

It will be faster to give money

It is all in a phone instead of carrying coins and cash

You need to go to a bank

1. List three ways that social media payments are a negative thing.

Some people find advanced technology confusing

Since it is digital there can be bugs and errors

Not all people prefer online tranactions

1. Is Canada ahead of or behind other countries in the use of mobile payments? Explain your answer.

I think Canada is a little behind other countries for the use of mobile payments because other countries like UK, US, and China are always testing new things first but sooner Canada will come and adapt to the environment.

1. In your opinion, should mobile payments be allowed in Canada? Write a SOP to justify your position.

To be honest, no. Mobile payment shouldn’t be allowed because there are other problems worth more than online payments. People should just stick to using a credit card and going to the bank to withdraw and deposit money because to me, it is more simple and easy because online transactions can be confusing to use at times. Also, it would be easy for hackers to steal money since it is online so there might be a increase of stolen money.