Read the following articles:

* <http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/ransomware-europe-russia-ukraine-petya-bitcoin-1.4179683>
* <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/oshawa-hospital-cyberattack-1.4114758>
* <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2017/05/13/ontario-health-ministry-on-high-alert-amid-global-cyberattack.html>

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: Ransomware Basics**

1. What is a ransomware attack?

It is a form of malware in which a unbreakable software code effectively holds a user’s computer hostage until a ‘ransom’ fee is paid.

1. How does ransomware work and what does it affect?

Ransomeware requires direct contact between computer networks and it affects computer files and all computer data.

**Level 2: Canada & Other Countries**

1. What was affected in Canada in the articles above?

Canadian organizations like hospitals and individuals.

1. How badly was Canada affected?

One of the major ransomware attacks were in Lakeridge Health. Though the facility’s system was able to deflect the attack. Most major attacks are coming on Canada’s hospitals.

1. What other countries were affected?

U.K., Russia, and Spain were some countries that were affected as well. There are around 150 countries that have had ransomware attacks.

**Level 3: Canada & Other Countries**

1. Where did the attack come from?

As of yet the origin of the attack is unknown.

1. Why was the attack started?

This attack was started because “hackers” would hold important information for “ransom” and threaten to delete all data until some amount of money is paid. It can also access all information and data on your computer.

1. How was the attacked stopped?

The attacked were stopped by either paying the ransom amount or using an anti-virus package to get rid of the ransomware.

1. How could you be affected by a ransomware attack?

In a ransomware attack the person behind it can access all my information such as emails or any other personal things I may have saved on my computer. Also it can erase important data or information that I may have stored on my computer.

1. How can you protect yourself against a ransomwhare attack?

-Disconnect the infected computer.

-Don’t pay the ransom.

-Try to restore data from backup.