

## Evaluating Essays

**Read the following essay written by Amanda. Complete the following activities.**

**Identify:** Expository or Persuasive

**Highlight:** Thesis, transitions, justifiers, a quote, an example, a statistic.

**Circle:** Ten words to demonstrate strong vocabulary choices.

**Underline:** Sentences which begin in a different way (gerund, adverb, preposition)

Compound sentences (S, conj S or S;S or S; SC, S)

Complex sentence (LB, S)

Sentence with Commas in a Series (A, B, conj C or A, B, C noun)

Examples of figurative language (simile, metaphor, personification, idiom)

**Check:** Punctuation (end marks at the end of each sentence), Spelling and Capitalization

On one stormy summer day, I had nothing to do since the weather was so horrible. So, I decided to do school practice homework so that I would not forget my skills during the summer vacation. I turned on my computer and went to the website, [www.summerhomework.com](http://www.summerhomework.com). I started working and suddenly I heard a loud BOOM!! In an instant, my computer shut off and all the lights went out. I realized that the power was out. I thought to myself, "What else am I supposed to do if nothing works in my house?" That is when I realized that technology is an imperative part of my life. Modern technology is a necessity for living because you would not be able to travel as freely without it, medicines would not be as developed so many people would die needlessly, and you need technology in order to receive a great education.

To begin with, modern technology is very important because there would be no way of traveling as freely as we do now without it. Imagine walking everywhere in order to reach your destination. Airplanes can't function without technology. In fact, airplanes are technology. Computers, radar, communications, cameras, etc. are all needed just to fly a plane. In a recent article in the "Times" magazine, 88% of the people in the world have traveled by plane. Can you picture never being able to see your relatives who live far away? Obviously, living would be very different without technology because we would be stuck in one area and not able to travel as easily as we do now.

**Write On!**



In addition, modern technology can make a difference in someone's life because, with the use of it, many different medicines have been discovered. For instance, my grandmother suffers from high blood pressure; she is under doctor's care because her blood pressure can skyrocket for anything. So she is always taking special medications. With computers and many other scientific tools, doctors are creating many medications that can cure a variety of illnesses. Honestly, I do not believe my grandma would be alive today without the use of modern technology. Clearly, technology is unbelievably important because it enables doctors to make medicine.

Furthermore, technology is a necessity for life because it can help with your education. Think about it. The books that you read are all printed by some sort of technology. Also, television is vital for learning because there are so many programs that teach you new info like the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, and many more. My fifth grade teacher would always say, "If you have an awesome education and learn a lot, then you will live an awesome life." Now I have the opportunity for a great education because of technology. Thus, technology is crucial because it can give you a terrific education.

To sum it all up, modern technology is essential for living because you would not be able to travel as freely without it and medications are created through the use of technology. Also, it gives you a chance for a superb education. As the power slowly, but surely, returned, I was glad the power had shut off. It gave the chance to realize how important the simple things are in life like computers, televisions, cell phones, etc. are. Without modern technology I would be nowhere.