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| **A**ttention Getter:  Get the reader’s attention by discussing the world at large via a specific issue that has caused you to do some critical thinking. You can do this by using facts and statistics, sharing an anecdote, or finding an appropriate quote for one of the youtube items that we viewed as well as giving relevant examples. Transition to necessary information. |
| **N**ecessary Information:  Here is where you detail the stories that we are reading that will help you prove your point, or give current updates on research that you found. Make certain to transition to your claim |
| **T**hesis Statement (CLAIM): This should be an arguable, intelligent, and original claim that has the counterpoint and two points included. |
| Attention Getter: GET THE READER INVOLVED IN YOUR ESSAY  In a youtube clip that has over one million views, slam poet Marshall Davis Jones declares that the dehumanizing aspects of technology have created an atmosphere in which “Voices are only read, and laughter is never heard” (Touchscreen). (QUOTE) While this seems an overstatement at first, a look at the world around will prove his point. In the classroom in which I sit, several students avoid conversation because they are so busy sending texts to other people in different locations. At a restaurant recently, a young couple, presumably on a date, ate in silence as they posted to Instagram. (RELEVANT CURRENT EXAMPLE) While this may seem an exaggeration, many others can attest to the fact that technology has reduced actual communication. (TRANSITION TO NECESSARY INFORMATION) |
| Necessary Information: DETAIL THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION THAT YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THIS TOPIC  This point is neither new nor surprising. (CONNECTION TO LITERATURE) In fact, it was predicted over sixty years ago by Ray Bradbury in his dystopic novel *Fahrenheit 451.*In this novel, the protagonist Guy Montag and his wife have very little time for meaningful conversation. And, unfortunately, the entire society is one built upon distraction. If the citizens are not watching the walls in the parlor, they are taking sedatives and heading to bed in an effort to avoid unsettling thoughts. It is these very distractions that compelled Bradbury to sound a warning to all about what would happen if technology is allowed to rule our lives. While the book is dated, his cautionary tale still rings true as the increased use of technology has created very troubling results. (TRANSITION TO CLAIM) |
| Thesis Statement (CLAIM): This should be an arguable, intelligent, and original claim  Although technology has certainly enhanced communication in society by allowing for long-distance interfacing, it is also responsible for reducing meaningful interactions and replacing real-world friendships with virtual ones. |