

Should every school have a "Shut Down Your Screen Week"? First of all, what is a "Shut Down Your Screen Week"? It is a week where not one student uses any electronics for five days of school. So no, we should not have a "Shut Down Your Screen Week" at all. Obviously, many teachers believe we only use our phones for social media, but we really don't. We can use our electronics for good things, like finding research on a school project, using a calculator for math, or even being able to be in contact with your parents.

First having our phones and electronics with us at school is not such a bad thing. We are in the 21st century, if we have the sources, why not use them? Everyone nowadays has a cellphone, that's how we can easily keep in touch with our friends and loved ones. Keith Hampton, from the American Sociological Association, says, "The constant feed from our online social circles is the modern front porch." Maybe we have an emergency at school and need to call our parents or an adult? How would we be able to do that with no electronics during "Shut Down Your Screen Week"? We never know when there can be an emergency.

Second, the internet on our electronics can help us with our homework. Every term, and every semester there is always that one project we just cannot do on our own. So what can we turn to? Yes, parents can be useful, but they can't help with everything, so we go to the internet. Homework can be hard, and the internet is an excellent way to help. There are a ton of websites that are awesome with handing out useful information. In the article, "Is Google Making Us Stupid?", it says, "The Internet contains the world's best writing, images, and ideas; it lets us find the relevant pieces instantly." Without the internet, a lot of students wouldn't have half of their work right, or even turned in.

However, I can see why some might believe having a "Shut Down Your Screen Week" can be good for us students. Teachers get angry when they see a phone, and if it is their wish to not see any electronics in their classroom, then they should have their wish granted. And there are also some students who wouldn't mind having a week without electronics, but those are mostly the kids who don't have an electronic. And in the end, how would the teachers like it if we confiscated their electronics from them for a whole week every time we saw them out?

Lastly, "Shut Down Your Screen Week" would not be a good fit for many schools. We depend on our phones. Electronics can be good. And there are so many things that can go wrong with a week without any screens. Electronics don't have to be used for only social media. "Shut Down Your Screen Week" should not even be considered in any schools, for many reasons.

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Comment [KD1]: Domain-specific vocabulary

Comment [KD2]: Claim

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Comment [KD3]: Quotation cited with author tag

Second, the internet on our electronics can help us with our homework. Every term, and every semester there is always that one project we just cannot do on our own. So what can we turn to? Yes, parents can be useful, but they can't help with everything, so we go to the internet. Homework can be hard, and the internet is an excellent way to help. There are a ton of websites that are awesome with handing out useful information. In the article, "Is Google Making Us Stupid?", it says, "The Internet contains the world's best writing, images, and ideas; it lets us find the relevant pieces instantly." Without the internet, a lot of students wouldn't have half of their work right, or even turned in.

Comment [KD4]: Transition between paragraphs

Comment [KD5]: Quotation cited with title tag

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Comment [KD6]: Transition to exploration of counterclaims

Comment [KD7]: Internal transition within paragraph

Comment [KD8]: Academic vocabulary

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Comment [KD9]: Claim restated

8 th Grade Argument: SAGE Writing Rubric Scores	
Statement of Purpose/Focus and Organization	4
Evidence/Elaboration	4
Conventions/Editing	2

This essay makes a strong, concise argument and focuses exclusively on the prompt. It has a clear organizational structure, including an introduction and conclusion. The claim is stated in the introduction and revisited with supporting ideas in the conclusion. A number of possible counterclaims are addressed in the fourth paragraph. The progression of ideas is logical and communicated to the reader with transitions between ideas (transitions at the beginning/ends of paragraphs) and among ideas (internal transitions within the paragraphs).

The essay uses quotations from the passage set as evidence to support its claims and cites the sources in various ways. The evidence is integrated into the text smoothly. The essay also elaborates on the evidence for the reader as necessary. The writing occasionally uses informal language ("a ton of websites that are awesome"), but the use of academic ("confiscated") and domain-specific ("social media") vocabulary helps to achieve a more appropriate formal tone and style.

While some editing errors are evident, they do not rise to the level of obscuring the meaning of the text.