



A New World

English 181 Final Portfolio

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A New World: Cover Letter of English Final Portfolio

Preface: How My Journey Embarks

Writing in a new linguistic system is much as paving paths to a new world: Travelling in only one path will bring me nowhere close to my destination; following my heart solely without consulting others will hinder me from succeeding; neglecting my mistakes will eventually drag me into the swamp of failure.

“You might need to practice your English since you need to study in United States from now on.” I can still recall my father’s sincere words from five years ago when my family decided to move to United States. Like every other children from a new immigration family, I was frightened and perplexed. Although I have studied English since elementary school, being able to communicate in English on a daily basis was far beyond my knowledge. Sadly, my consideration as a child apparently did not weigh much, and my parents sent me to a high school which offered a very nice ESL program. I managed to speak English more fluently and got involved in the society gradually. When it came to writing, I used to take advantage of that program because my teachers would grade my papers less harshly. Due to the heavy reliance on that program, I began to neglect my grammatical and structural mistakes. “English is not my first language.” I said that to myself countless times as an excuse to make mistakes in writing. As a result, my writing skill barely improved for the past couple years. When I took my first ACT exam, I realized that without the protection of ESL program, I could hardly get a satisfying score in English section. Fortunately, I scored high enough in all the other sections so that my overall score was acceptable; however, that English score was still a sting to my pride. Soon after, I graduated from high school and became a college student. While enrolling in courses this summer, I

decided to stop hiding behind the wall of ESL and committed to an English course which I found appealing.

As time goes by, the rapid improvement of my writing skill has proven my choice at the beginning of this semester to be right. Through the lessons and help I received from my instructor professor Marlo Starr, I succeed in extending my writing ability from ESL to college-level, a point that can be proved by my ability to adapt a variety of genres, to properly analyze and integrate other texts into my own writing, and to revise, rephrase and evaluate both personal and others' writings. In this cover letter, I will refer to my previous works of this course in order to demonstrate my ability. The works I refer to are blog posts, Pecha Kucha presentation, annotated bibliography, literary response letter, rough draft of final assessment and final assessment.

Outcome 1: Different Paths towards Destination

“Mille viae ducunt homines per saecula Romam”

----- *Alain de Lille*

The English translation of that quotation is “A thousand roads lead men forever to Rome”, which is meant to demonstrate how geographically popular Rome is. I integrate this quote here to show that there are countless genres of literature including but not limited to formal research papers. As an eligible writer, I need to be able to adapt to different genre of writings. I have to switch my tone, my writing structure and so on based on different atmospheres, audience and purposes.

In my blog posts, I often bring up points that are majorly my assumptions instead of textual evidences. In blog post #1, the instructor required us to summarize the podcast “Eye in

the Sky” and comment on the issue discussed in the podcast. A new surveillance system called Angel Fire is introduced in that podcast, and I found that this surveillance system would grant excessive power for the government, thus opposing to the suggestion of implementing that system. One of the arguments I made was that “People nowadays do not get punished for grumbling not only because of freedom of speech but also because the government is not able to track what people has said” (Blog Post #1). Despite the authenticity of this argument, I did not provide any evidence to support or prove this statement and thus lowering the credibility. Nevertheless, it is acceptable since we can make assumptions based on our own experience in blog posts. On the other hand, this can become a fatal error in formal writings such as research assessments since the requirements are different. For instance, in my research assessment, I suggested that “Mary Shelly utilizes the artificial intelligence as an extension of human desires” as my thesis statement, and I immediately quoted from an article from Thomas Vargish, a literary scholar, stating “Technology serves to express, aid, and extend values” (FinalPaper). The different ways of introducing an argument in those two assignments vividly demonstrated how different genres had different expectations. Furthermore, I am able to alter my writing style based on different purposes and audiences. In my Pecha Kucha presentation, my main purpose is to attract audience and to persuade them. As a result, I integrated lots of humorous elements so that my presentation would not sound boring and pale. While criticizing my object, the iPhone 6s, I intentionally used an ironic tone and commented on its new structure, “A whole new dimension of technology. Sounds so revolutionary! Wait. So is that just a glass cover in front of the other layers?” (Pecha Kucha) My script sounded extremely informal, but I believed that was the best way to entertain my audience and thus to keep them focused. In my annotated bibliography, I also criticized one of the authors’ ideas, but the wording was thoroughly different

from my presentation. The author of that article suggested that artificial intelligence would eliminate humanity and destroy the society, and “I would like to refute the author’s idea about how artificial creatures could potentially harm the society” (Annotated Bibliography). The difference was distinct between these two statements even though they both served to refute another argument. In my annotated bibliography, I intentionally to choose vocabularies that were relatively more formal compared to the words I chose for my presentation since the audience and purposes were different.

Outcome 2: Standing on the Shoulders of Giants

“Nanos gigantum humeris insidentes.”

----- *Bernardus Carnotensis*

The English translation of that quotation is “dwarfs who stand on the shoulders of giants” which is a metaphor that usually means people who are able to learn from each other will be able to discover more. We, as apprentices of writing, are dwarfs who just commenced on improving our skills. There are countless giants out there we can ask for help, let it be our instructors, classmates, texts or even literary scholars.

As I mentioned in outcome 1, although stating an argument without framing is acceptable in some informal situations, it is usually not recommended because the lack of reference can not only weaken the credibility of the argument, but also fail to provide a “so what” statement to audience. To be honest, I did not know that until professor Starr taught me to make a “they say I say” structure this year. In my blog post #4, the instructor asked me to choose a picture and to relate it with a specific scene in the novel *Super Sad True Love Story*. The picture I picked was a lady with price tags on her body. I stated that this picture reminded me of page 88 in the novel,

and I began my argument with summarizing the scene first, “On that page, Lenny and his friends FAC (From A Community) with a group of ladies in a bar and compare their information such as ‘Fuckability’, ‘Personality’ and ‘Sustainability’” (Blog Post #4). Even though the main purpose of this blog post was to demonstrate my ability of close reading and to explain how I related the novel with reality, I managed to provide a brief paraphrase of the scene I picked so that my readers could understand which scene I was referring to and thus comprehending my point smoothly.

Besides summarizing texts, I learnt to summarize and comment on scholars’ ideas in formal writings as well. In my rough draft of final assessment, I stated that “the public seems to sink into the fear fostered by fictional works and thus opposing to technology” (FinalDraft) in my introduction in order to pave for my major argument which suggested that “suspending the development of technology due to the unnecessary fear becomes rather absurd” (FinalDraft). Without referring to the public’s perspective towards technology, my statement would sound abstract since a “so what” statement was missing.

Outcome 3: Examining Myself

“A true genius admits that he/she knows nothing.”

----- *Albert Einstein*

This quotation emphasizes the importance of admitting one’s mistake and revising it. Instead of looking for excuses like I used to, an eligible writer should always be able to revise his/her own work and learn from others. In this course, we spent a majority of our time peer editing and reviewing each other’s assignment and gave out comments. I also scheduled

appointments with both writing center and ESL tutors in order to avoid grammatical and structural errors.

In my rough draft of final assessment, I chose words that were either abstract or vague which prevent readers from understanding my point clearly. For instance, my title was “Subjugation of Technology: The Conquering Power of Humanity in Frankenstein” (FinalDraft), which was tedious, and the word “subjugation” was awkward and vague. After consulting my instructor, I changed my title into “Humanity behind Technology: Presence of Humanity in Frankenstein” (FinalPaper), which sound much concise and directly demonstrated my core argument. In addition, my thesis used to be “by treating technology as an aid, removing bias created by fictional works and presenting solicitude for the creators, people can strengthen humanity and thus become superior to technology”(FinalDraft), which was too general and lack of support from the novel. After reconsidering my focus, I rewrote my thesis into “Mary Shelly utilizes the artificial intelligence as an extension of human desires, demonstrates humanity behind the horrifying appearance of the monster and manages to raise people’s attention towards technicians” (FinalPaper). This time, I chose words that were more concrete and strictly built my arguments around the novel.

Furthermore, in my rough draft, my second argument was “Removing Bias Created by Fictional Works” (FinalDraft), which was more of a social issue instead of a literary analysis. My instructor kindly indicated that I should focus more on the novel, and I could extend the discussion further at the end of the paragraph or in the conclusion. Unfortunately, I found it impossible to revise my previous argument so that it could meet the requirement. As a result, I deleted that argument and drafted a new argument called “Humanity behind Monstrous Appearances” (FinalPaper), which was much more focused on the novel. Last but not least, my

instructor pointed out that the word “solicitude” in my last argument “Presenting Solicitude for the Creators” (FinalDraft) was unclear. Frankly, I tried to use a fancy word while phrasing that title; nevertheless, I changed the title into “Raise the Awareness towards the Technicians” (FinalPaper) since I felt that letting readers understand my work was way more important than implementing fancy vocabularies.

Conclusion: My Journey Will Never End

If I could only use one word to describe my journey this semester, I would use the word fruitful. I prefer to call my experience this year a journey instead of a course since writing is more of a self-improving process. By strictly following the instructions, I am able to write in different genres, to refer to and comment on others’ works, and to examine my own works. However, like my instructor once said, there is no formula for writing a good essay. It is impossible to become an eligible writer by solely following instructions.

Although I manage to learn countless new techniques and to improve my writing skills this semester, I still have a long way to go on the path of writing. I am glad that I decide take this course as a challenge to myself, and I am proud of my own achievements. I believe through taking more writing courses and keep advancing my skills, I am able to become an eligible writer someday.

Showcase

Blog Posts #1

The podcast “Eye in the Sky” introduces audiences a new technology called Project Angel Fire, a surveillance system that enables the police to monitor and track down every crime that happens in a city, and arouses the conflict between safety and privacy. Some people suggest that implementing this system can conspicuously help the police arrest criminals; whereas others argue that this system is an intolerable invasion to their privacy. However, there is one significant issue that both sides have not addressed yet. The major problem that this surveillance system might bring is not the violation of privacy but the excessive power it has granted for the government. Coincidentally, George Orwell demonstrated how excessive power can foster dictatorship and thus making the society dystopian through his novel *1984*. In that novel, the government, as known as “The Big Brother”, monitors civilians through a surveillance system and punishes people for making “improper” statements such as complaining about the government. People nowadays do not get punished for grumbling not only because of freedom of speech but also because the government is not able to track what people has said. Nevertheless, this surveillance system offers the government a chance to dominate the whole country. It is not essentially true that the government will execute absolutism after implementing this system, but this undue power creates a potential risk and indirectly endangers the society. As a result, people should consider more about implementing this system instead of making an impulsive decision.

In his reflection upon “Eye in the Sky”, he argues that people should not implement this surveillance system because of the potential risk it creates regardless of its efficiency on solving crimes and keeping the city in order. All of his statements are based on the theory that he keeps reaffirming: excessive power will develop dictatorship. He does not deny that “It is not essentially true that the government will execute absolutism after implementing this system”. However, he still insists that the lurking danger people will risk after implementing this system is way more important than the benefit that the system will bring to the society. His comments are irrational since it is not likely that the system will cultivate dictatorship. First of all, this society is built based on capitalism. Unlike the dominating political party in *1984*, none of the parties in USA that can rule the country. In addition, it is clearly stated in the podcast that this system cannot track individuals vividly, thus contradicting his comment about “track[ing] what people has said”. Last but not least, even though there is still a minor possibility that the

government will execute absolutism after implementing the system, the benefits that the system brings people surpass the potential risk. People should worry about their lives in the moment instead of in the future. As a result, the government should implement this system and make the society a better place.

Blog Post #2

People who live in modern society seem to have an endless discussion about our excessive dependence on technology. A controversial issue is whether technologies such as e-books should replace paperbacks. While some argue that unlike paperbacks, e-books can save countless trees and thus protecting the environment, others contend that paperbacks can help the readers build a more direct and close relationship with the author and understand the literature work better. In *Super Sad True Love Story*, the protagonist Lenny is a huge fan of paperbacks. However, during his trip, one of the passengers complains about the “wet socks” smell of his book. Lenny’s obsession with books isolates him from the society since the future generations view paperback not only as an inconvenient media but also as a disgusting product due to the smell of it. Through this passage, the author expresses some mixed feelings. He concedes that paperbacks will, sooner or later, be replaced by some technologies much as vehicles replaced carriages, e-mails replaced pigeons and missile replaced cannons. However, he decides to regard this phenomenon as a natural evolution instead of judging it. The point that the author tries to demonstrate here is not whether paperbacks will disappear but to what extent it will disappear. In the novel, people view Lenny as a weird person and estrange him only because he reads book. The author emphasizes on the judgments that people around Lenny make in order to show the readers that he hopes people will stay neutral about paperbacks instead of criticizing them. The author exaggerates the scene sarcastically so that readers are able to realize how ridiculous it is to criticize someone because of the media they choose to get information from. Technologies will diminish people’s interests in paperbacks for sure, and the author knows this trend is unstoppable. Nevertheless, he wants readers to realize that there are still people who prefer paperbacks, and no one should ever judge them.

Blog Post #4



The page I chose was page 88. On that page, Lenny and his friends FAC (From A Community) with a group of ladies in a bar and compare their information such as “Fuckability”, “Personality” and “Sustainability”. This scene makes me feel dystopian not only because of the lack of privacy but also the void of humanity. Human beings are supposed to contact with each other through words and gestures. Although I admit that sometimes appearance is a relatively important part during conversations, people should be able to value these characteristics by themselves and by their own standards instead of a programmed software. The way people socialize in the novel is dystopian since no human-like communication is involved. All they have to do is to scan each other’s face, and the software will automatically pair them up. I chose this picture to represent the concept of that scene. In this picture, a young lady is attached with several price tags. The combination of technical data and human body symbolizes the techno-orientalism in the novel. Even though the main characters in this scene are non-Asians, it still demonstrates the idea of attributing perfection with technical species. A similar idea is conveyed through this photo. This young lady is considered as a product instead of a human being due to her beauty. The title of this photo is “How Much am I Worth to You”. Sadly, no one should ever need a price tag or any statistics to judge another person. This concept of judging people through a standardized valuing system is pathetic and thoroughly dystopian. Furthermore, the facial expression of this young lady in the photo expresses her sadness. With the lightning effect, I assume that the author wants to demonstrate a depressed feeling since valuing others with price tags is woeful. In this case, the depressed emotion is vivid even though we as audience clearly

know that this lady in the picture is just acting. It is cruel to imagine living in a real society where people judge others by a sets of data.

Blog Post #9

In my research paper, I would like to demonstrate how Mary Shelly teaches people to master technology through humanity via the novel Frankenstein. My main theme is humanity, and my thesis statement is also built around that theme. I would like to give a brief introduction about how people generally view this book as an “anti-technology” novel. After that, I will bring in the scholars’ ideas and indicate the difference. I will then implement my thesis statement in order to show my perspective.

After the introduction, I will first talk about how the monster is driven by Victor’s personalities and characteristics in order to show how humanity can lead artificial intelligence. I will choose a passage from the novel which I haven’t decided which and analyze it. Furthermore, I will quote from Vargish’s article to introduce the idea of seeing the monster as the extension of Victor’s core values. By fusing Vargish’s article and the novel, I will conclude that technologies are only aids to extend humanities instead of eliminating. However, I will mention that the public usually see technologies as potential dangers which contradicts most of the scholars’ ideas.

I will explain why public and scholars think differently by quoting from Nerlich’s article about how fictional works foster the fear among public. In order to support this idea, I will quote the passage about the appearance of the monster from the novel. I will mention how people judge the monster by its appearance instead of its characteristics to create a parallelism between people in the novel and in our society. In order to further emphasize how fictional works cause people panic about technology, I will quote from Orlin’s essay and criticize some points he made by referring to Nerlich’s article.

Last but not least, I will quote from Julian’s article and point out that the lack of humanity is the major issue that causes artificial creatures to become rampage. I will also use Victor’s story and show how his lack of responsibility and humanity causes the monster’s rage and thus leading to destruction.

Blog Post #12

If I were given the chance to teach Freshmen about writing in Sci-Fi field, I would like to teach them how to make a "They Say I Say" structure. I personally feel that being able to respond to another idea is extremely important and essential for writing, especially in Sci-Fi field. Sci-Fi works are naturally bonded with real life sciences and imagination. However, neither of these two elements can work without the other. As authors, we have to learn to balance between realistic values and our own perspectives. By using a "They Say I Say" structure, authors can effectively show readers their theses and the reason they write. In addition, referring to others' works can also increase the credibility of our own papers much as Sci-Fi authors implement real-life technologies to make audiences feel that their stories are based on real life.

I have designed several activities so that students will get engaged in class. First of all, I will let students make a Pecha Kucha presentation since I really love the one we did this year. I did not do perfectly on my presentation since I failed to apply close reading skills. Based on my mistake, I will ask my students to focus on close reading. I would not necessarily ask them to pick a physical object, but I will ask them to pick a critic who they are interested in. I will ask them to pick 20 quotes from the critics' works and comment on those quotes. They can either support or refute those quotes but within 20 seconds. In this way, students need to figure out what is the most important part of their quotes and thus respond to it. Furthermore, I will let them write a formal research paper based on this presentation. They can have different topics, but they have to include at least two quotes they used in their presentation. In this way, students need to think how they can build their essay around evidences and thus learn to use "They Say I Say" structure.

Literary Response Letter (p.72 revised)

JUNE 9

Rome

Dearest Diary,

I've made a decision today: I will take the next plane home.

I do not know whether this decision will have a positive impact on my future, but I guess I have to do it. I've tried to convince my mother to move to Rome and live with me; however, she seems to be reluctant to any change. She would rather let dad abuse her every single day.

Meanwhile, Sally, my little sister, spends days and nights studying Chemistry, which means mom is left alone with dad most of the time. She is completely UN-PROTECTED, and dad can, and absolutely will, blame her for every little thing and beat her for no reason. I lose sleep every night worrying about my mother's safety. I am the eldest child in my family, and according to Korean tradition, I have the responsibility to take care of my sisters and parents. As a result, I decide to step in. I have to do something before that violent beast ruins my family. I can tell that mom will be happy to see me back since she keeps reminding me that "We are not like American." I mean it sounds weird because I am an American, but I get her point. Both my parents have expressed their dissatisfactions towards my life in Rome. They keep mentioning that I have not protected my mystery, which is a cliché way to say that I am not a virgin anymore. I am twenty-four years old, and whether I have slept with someone is none of their businesses. Sometimes I wish I were born in America and both of my parents were white. I know it sounds like a racial discrimination, but that's my innermost thought. No offence to the Asians, but American lifestyle suits me better. Coming from culture, from family and even from siblings, the pressure drives me crazy. To be honest, I have thought about deleting all their contact information so that they can never find me again. Unfortunately, it would be a difficult decision

for me to let it go completely, let alone technically impossible. Sadly, even though I am still in touch with my family, I feel isolated from them. We have barely anything in common to talk about besides our family issues. I feel they never truly understand the words I say, the happiness I express, the sadness I convey, the confusion I describe and even the life I portray. I believe they feel the same way when they chat with me. This is not what I want. I am not a rebellious kid anymore. Someone has to break the barriers. Sally is too young and too obsessed with her personal life to reunite the family. Mom's heart is fulfilled with cowardice, and therefore she can never be the one. As a result, I have to be the person to restore the cohesion of our family. It is sarcastic that I just complain about the responsibilities I have to hold, and I envision myself as the savior of our family now. It is funny, but maybe I still have the mind of an Asian girl secretly.

Misfortunes never come singly. I broke up with Ben three days ago. He is a good guy: looking good, humorous, and a rising star in Credit. Nonetheless, his merits make me feel that I do not deserve someone like that. Every time after I did something wrong, I could clearly sense the disgust through his gestures or even facial expressions. I can't stop crying over Ben and over my family. The weird thing is that whenever I start crying, Lenny's face emerges in my mind. All I want to do is just to cuddle him and cry on his shoulder. He is, indeed, disgusting physically, but I can feel the love that he tries to convey. I have some complex feelings about him. I've never had feelings like that before. A voice in me says, "No way, I am not even attracted to him. This is not going to work." However, another voice says, "Just give it a try. He seems to be pretty serious." I do not want to admit, but my relationship with Lenny is one of the major reasons for me to go back to America. I want to be not only close to my family but also close to him. It makes me feel safe.

Anyway, my dear diary, I will go to New York soon. I hope this will solve everything.

Personal Reflection (Literary Letter)

In *Super Sad True Love Story*, Eunice seems to be a rebellious figure through her tone and language usage. Nevertheless, I feel she is actually a girl who cares about her family more than anything else. Eunice declares in the book that she wants to go back home to protect her mother, but from her words, readers can easily tell that she misses her family. When Sally tries to convince Eunice to stay in Rome and continue her life, Eunice expresses abnormal anxiety towards her family not only because Sally is unreliable but also because of her nostalgia. Nostalgia causes Eunice to apprehend about everything back in her home and thus leading to her overreaction. In the novel, Eunice expresses her feeling through social media, thus she has to hide her true feelings because these words are accessible to her friends. People of her age often view sentimental people as immature and laugh at those who feel homesick. Eunice cannot express those feelings online because she wants people to feel that she is the cool girl. As a result, I write this dairy version of Eunice's feeling about her family in order to show how sentimental Eunice really is. I feel my letter includes plenty of emotional comments, so it leans towards the "Patho" side. One of my advantage is that I understand Eunice's feeling since I've been through something like this before. The reason I pick this passage is that this passage arouses some of my memories when I first came to America couple years ago. I am able to build a more direct relationship with the character and therefore present her emotion more accurately. Nevertheless, the lack of evidence is one of the disadvantages of my letter. Because this letter is majorly emotion based, I find it difficult to apply enough evidences from the text to support my points.

Pecha Kucha Scripts

1: Introduction - Thesis: “How Apple manipulates people with visual, verbal and psychological strategies.”

2: Closer look at the ad Slogan, “learn more”, kinetic order of the iPhones, available in store

3: Starting with slogan “The only thing that’s changed is everything”

Smart slogan, refute those who criticize the lack of differences between iPhone 6 and iPhone 6s sarcastically.

Just like saying “Everything has changed, but only you cannot see.”

However, are the changes really significant?

4: Example of 3D touch

Introduce: Responses will change according to the pressure

5: 3D touch, the most revolutionary change according to Apple

So what?

“The next generation of Multi-Touch.”

Still, so what?

“The phone responds with a subtle tap.”

Ugh, so what?

“A shortcut to the things you do the most.”

So, are we paying \$700 to make what used to be two clicks into one press?

6: Example of live photos

7: Live photos

Looks so cool.

Sorry I can’t upload it to the PowerPoint and show you guys

Why?

Because it’s a jpg photo combined with another video.

So what’s the difference?

Ugh, capturing a video faster?

Basically it’s a photo, and whenever you press it, it plays another video for you.

8: New dimension of iPhone 6s

A whole new dimension of technology

So revolutionary!!!

Wait

So is that just a glass cover in front of the other layers?

9: Learn more

There must be some statistics.

Click in

Wow

All these watch options will lead you to different advertisements with almost no statistics.

All pathos and ethos.

All these three ads talk about 3D-Touch but nothing else.

10: A9

70% faster

90% faster

Sounds impressive

Two graphs

Statistically worthless

No units, no number shown, no mean/standard deviation

These two curves are no more than just two curves

What has been improved by 70%? What has been improved by 90%?

11: Real life test

Opening map on iPhone 6 and iPhone 6s simultaneously

1 second difference in opening maps

Concede that there is some improvement

1 second improvement is not significantly high

It still takes about 1 second for the 6s to open the map, not instantaneously

12: Kinetic Design of the website

Stylish elements: Skateboard symbolizes young and cool

Implying that if one purchases iPhone, he/she will become young and cool

Fun fact: Don't skateboard with an iPhone on you since you can easily drop it and break it.

All the images on the website are floating, thus demonstrating the feeling of freedom and fashionable.

13: Multi-racial

Harmonic between races

Asian, African- American, Hispanic, White...

Implying that everyone uses iPhone around the world

Globalization

14: Rose Gold

Gold symbolizes wealth

Rose gold is aiming for the female customers but also can attract male customers

Distinguish themselves from iPhone 6 much as the gold color in previous generations

15: Available in Sept 25th

Pre-orders go crazy on the night when it's released

Break its own record of selling 10 million iPhones on the first day

Apple stores in China, Hong Kong, Japan and tax-free U.S. states will require a reservation.

No Walk-ins available

Why not producing more since Apple knows for sure that the sales will go crazy every single year?

16: Hunger Marketing

Limiting Supply thus creating demand

By using pre-order, creating this atmosphere of anxiety.

Customers who are still hesitating will go purchase right away.

17: iPhone for Business

Not a large portion of sales

Still available not only for the sales

But also for building the sense of maturity

Apple wants to build the reputation of not only persuading the young generations but also dominating the mature customers

18: Social Convenience

Apple Pay

Ignoring the security problem

Ignoring the lack of supported retail stores

Ignoring the lack of supported banks

Once you lose your cell phone, you lose all of your credit card information

iPhone 6 can also do this, but they choose to ignore it

But, it looks cool and attractive

19: Conclusion

Visual elements

Social influences

Psychological effects

20: So what?

Customers, especially students who don't have a lot of money, should be more rationale while purchasing this kind of products.

Proposal

Subjugation of Technology: The Conquering Power of Humanity in *Frankenstein*

In Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1818), the author introduces the tension between human race and artificial creatures. People consider this novel as one of the first science fiction novels and frequently refer to the novel regarding the issue that whether people should keep developing technology at breath-taking pace or not. In addressing this question, literature scholars have considered several explanations based on both the novel and the social environment. Some scholars argue that *Frankenstein* demonstrates how human beings enforce their creations to become a threat to the society, so that people should continue advancing technology but with rather proper manners. However, the public seems to sink into the fear fostered by fictional works and thus opposing against technology. By closely examining the different perspectives between scholar journals and associates' commentaries, I agree that technologies are extensions of human desires, a point that needs emphasizing since so many people still believe that *Frankenstein* portrays a tragic story where technology violates and eliminates humanity. The fear conveyed in *Frankenstein* is superficial and should not hinder people nowadays from improving technology. In fact, the novel has shown readers how to subjugate technologies through one of the most important values that human have: humanity. *Frankenstein* vividly reveals how humanity is superior to artificial creatures through the dynamic developments of the monster and also of the protagonist Frankenstein.

Annotated Bibliography

Subjugation of Technology: The Conquering Power of Humanity in *Frankenstein*

Emory University, Georgia, October 27 2015

Junhao “Steven” Cao

Julian E. Orr. “Lessons from Frankenstein on Technology and Society.” PDC 2000 Proceedings of the Participatory Design Conference. (2000): 148-155. Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility. Web. 24 Oct. 2015

This commentary article has a different perspective comparing to ordinary *Frankenstein* criticisms. The author attributes the issue raised by innovative technologies to the lack of care towards the technicians from the society. In this article, the author suggests that technicians are the ones who hold massive responsibilities towards their creatures. However, the society rarely concerns their feelings and thus causing chaos.

The point raised by the author makes me feel extremely relevant to our society nowadays. Instead of talking about how technicians should be responsible for their creatures, people should start to realize and appreciate their contributions first. Rather than criticizing them for not being responsible such as Frankenstein fails to fulfill his responsibility towards the monster, people should pay more attention to whether the society has treated these technicians with proper manners at the first place.

Nerlich, Brigitte, David D. Clarke, and Robert Dingwall. "Fictions, Fantasies, And Fears: The Literary Foundations Of The Cloning Debate." *Journal Of Literary Semantics* 30.1 (2001): 37-52. MLA International Bibliography. Web. 23 Oct. 2015.

This scholar journal comment on a social issue by using *Frankenstein* as an example to support the authors' idea. The authors criticize those who refuse to accept biological hybridization due to the fear nurtured by fictional works. People who oppose biological hybridization which “blurs the boundaries between humans, plants, animals, and machines” often refers to imaginary and metaphorical activities from fictional works in order to support their ideas; however the authors point out that those evidences are fragile and untenable since the major purpose for science fictional works is to scare people and foster the fear among public.

The authors debate that science fictional works tend to create monstrous figures in order to attract audiences. Although people create fictional works based on reality, they intentionally implement literal techniques to foster fearful atmosphere so that the plots are rather absorbing. I would like to support the authors' ideas by indicating several parts of *Frankenstein* where Mary Shelley portrays the monster as a horrifying figure on purpose; nevertheless, I also want to point

out that Frankenstein represents people nowadays who see technology as a hazardous substance regardless of its advantages and dedicates themselves to preventing the development of technology.

Orlin Damyanov. "Technology and its dangerous effects on nature and human life as perceived in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein and William Gibson's Neuromancer." Oocities.org (2009). Web.24 Oct.2015

In this analytical essay, the author suggests that the development of technology is a short-term benefit for human race, but will eventually confuse people's identities and lead to destruction. The author relates developing technology with changes that emerge in the society and indicates that those rapid changes could potentially become plagues to the society. The author focuses on artificial intelligences and implies that relying on technology will lead to a usurpation by those artificial creatures.

The author's point of view is relatively radical comparing to other scholar sources. I would like to refute the author's idea about how artificial creatures could potentially harm the society. Furthermore, I would like to use the fear that the author expresses as an example in order to show how fictional works can mislead audiences.

Vargish, Thomas. "Technology And Impotence In Mary Shelley's Frankenstein." *War, Literature, And The Arts: An International Journal Of The Humanities* 21.(2009): 322-337. MLA International Bibliography. Web. 23 Oct. 2015.

This scholar journal introduces the idea of a well-known neurologist, Sigmund Freud's idea of the "self as composed of ego, superego, and id" and identifies Frankenstein, Elizabeth and the monster as "ego, superego and id" respectively. By analyzing the relationship between the characters in the book through psychoanalysis, the author argues that the monster, as a symbol of unfathomable technology, is a revelation of Frankenstein's own desire and an extension of his core values as a human. As a result, the author suggests that people should not let fear hinder the development of technology.

The author's point of view in this article is quite innovative. Instead of criticizing the destruction brought by technology, the author emphasizes how human emotions and core values shape technology into different ways. In my research paper, I would like to use the author's idea of implementing technology as an aid to extend people's values and further expand it to show how humanity has a strong impact upon technology and thus eliminating the potential risks beneath technology.

Final Draft

Subjugation of Technology: The Conquering Power of Humanity in Frankenstein

Abstract

In Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1823), the author creates this monstrous figure who leads to the destruction of the protagonist's life. This dreadful plot fosters the fear towards technology among the public, and some even oppose against technology due to the fear. This research paper refutes the public's perspective by referring to several scholarly articles and some passages from the novel. Furthermore, this paper suggests that by treating technology as an aid, removing bias created by fictional works and presenting solicitude for the creators, people can strengthen humanity and thus become superior to technology.

Introduction

In Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1823), the author introduces the potential tension between human beings and artificial intelligence. As one of the first science-fiction novels, *Frankenstein* initiates the discussion over whether or not people should keep developing technology at a breath-taking pace. Literature scholars have considered several explanations based on both the novel and the social environment regarding this question. Some scholars argue that *Frankenstein* demonstrates how human beings' improper manners impel their creatures to become detrimental to the society, so that people should continue advancing technology but with gingerliness. Nevertheless, the public seems to sink into the fear fostered by fictional works and thus opposing against technology.

This paper examines the different perspectives between scholar journals and associates' commentaries. Using several passages from the novel to validate the arguments made by each

side reveal that the fear conveyed in Frankenstein is superficial and should not hinder people nowadays from developing the technology. Technologies are extensions of human desires, a point that needs emphasizing since many people believe that Frankenstein portrays a tragic story where technology eliminates humanity. The novel has shown readers how to subjugate technologies through one of the most important values that all human beings share: humanity. This paper suggests that by treating technology as an aid, removing bias created by fictional works and presenting solicitude for the creators, people can strengthen humanity and thus become superior to technology.

Treating Technology as an Aid

Technology, often misunderstood as a substitution of traditional values such as love or relationship, is not a fundamental value that can replace or eliminate any traits of a human being. Technology “serves to express, aid, and extend values” (Vargish 325). In Frankenstein, Mary Shelley implements a parallel structure between the monster and Victor Frankenstein to demonstrate how technology, in this case, the monster, represents Victor’s characteristics and thus amplifying some of his traits.

While introducing himself to the readers at the beginning of the novel, Victor mentions that “[his] temper was sometimes violent, and [his] passions vehement; but by some law in [his] temperature they were turned not towards childish pursuits but to an eager desire to learn” (19). Victor regards knowledge as one of the essential values in his life and dedicates himself in learning. Coincidentally, the monster expresses a similar desire towards knowledge when he acquires “Paradise Lost, a volume of Plutarch’s Lives, and the Sorrows of Werter” (91) from a cottage. The monster gains not only ecstasy but also knowledge from reading. He begins to question his origin and also the world in a philosophical way: “Who was I? What was I? Whence

did I come? What was my destination?” (91) The monster’s instinct to learn and his efficiency of learning astonishes Victor; nevertheless, Victor fails to realize that the monster inherits this trait from him and further extends it. The monster could potentially serve to facilitate Victor’s learning process to fulfill his desire of learning if Victor treats the monster as an aid.

This parallel structure also emerges when Victor breaks his promise and destroys the monster’s potential female company. After witnessing Victor exterminate the work that he begins, the monster grows frenzied and guarantees that he will “make [Victor] so wretched that the light of day will be hateful to [him]” (122). The monster then carries his promise out by murdering Victor’s fiancée, which maddens Victor. Victor, with rage erupted from his eyes, swears that “[he] devote[s] [himself], either in [his] life or death, to [the monster’s] destruction” (148). The parallel structure is rather vivid in this example. Victor and the monster share the same characteristic: vengeance, and both execute it to extreme. Again, Victor fails to realize that the monster adapts this vengeful trait from him. As a character with more power, the monster easily avenges for his loss; however, Victor spends his whole life attempting to avenge for his fiancée. The monster is essentially an extension of Victor’s traits. Victor could utilize the monster as a tool in the first place instead of antagonizing the monster, which will possibly make his life less miserable.

Vargish, a literature scholar, states in his research journal, “Values tend to be ends in themselves rather than means, though they often function as empowering motives” (326). Vargish distinguishes values and technology explicitly. Unlike values, technology should be viewed as a media that people often use to express and further extend their values instead of serving as another fundamental value and thus replacing humanity. Mary Shelley uses Victor as

an example to show readers that treating technology as anything but an aid will only lead to tragedy.

Removing Bias Created by Fictional Works

A majority of public views opposes developing technology because of the fear towards usurpation led by artificial creatures. In one of the students' research papers, the author perceives the horror elements in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* as "a profound insight into the probable consequences of morally insensitive scientific and technological research" (Orlin). Orlin sinks into the fear generated by *Frankenstein* and insists that people should stop developing technology rapidly so that those fictional creatures will not become flesh and disrupt people's daily lives. The image of the monster in *Frankenstein* has deeply influenced Orlin's point of view on technology, which makes Orlin a typical representative of public perspectives. In the scholar article written by Nerlich, Brigitte, David D. Clarke, and Robert Dingwall, the authors argue fictional works "nourish and reflect the general public's fears about an increasing process of biological hybridisation which blurs the boundaries between humans, plants, animals, and machines and threatens people's sense of humanity" (37). These three authors comments that technology, which in their case, cloning, is a "topic deeply distorted in the popular understanding by the lurid nightmares of science fiction" (45). The fear that the authors of fictional works intentionally created has exceedingly impact the public's view of technology; however, the authors' intentions are mere to attract readers and create a horrifying atmosphere for the plot. In the author's introduction of *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley admits that her purpose of commencing *Frankenstein* is to "speak to the mysterious fears of our nature and awaken thrilling horror ---- one to make the reader dread to look round, to curdle the blood, and quicken the beatings of the heart" (vii). To accomplish her goal, Shelley manages to depict the creature as a horrifying

monster and intentionally relate the monster with several murders to enhance further the sanguinary elements. Doubtlessly, Shelley succeeds in frightening readers and attracting their attentions; nonetheless, the frequent references to the fear fostered either in Frankenstein or other fictional works by the public seem to be pale. People should not let these dreadful but fictional stories distort humanity. Therefore, suspending the development of technology due to the fear becomes rather absurd.

Presenting Solicitude for the Creators

The previous two passages mainly focus on how people should treat technology and maintain humanity through the process. This article will, on the other hand, shift the concern from technology to human beings. Besides the technical creations, it is also critical to present solicitude for the creators since their emotions have a significant impact on their creations.

Victor has dedicated his life before he succeeds in reincarnating the monster. His dedication leads not only to his success but also his lack of purposes and supports. At the moment he manages to resurrect the monster, he feels “the beauty of the dream vanished, and breathless horror and disgust filled [his] heart” (35). As a scientist who masters subjects in the science field, Victor has received little moral or ethical education. What’s more, he rarely steps out of his laboratory so that his social life is also limited. His life has no purpose besides creating this monster. As a result, he fails to respond correctly and take responsibility of the monster and thus causing himself to suffer. According to Julian Orr, “both machines and their users need understanding, help, explanation, negotiation, and translation for the machines to function in the world” (150). In his article, he compares the creature in Frankenstein to a technical machine and argues that if Victor had received solicitude from the society such as supports from an organization or advice from friends, Victor would not run away from his creature in the first

place. Victor would rather correctly respond to the monster's actions and take his responsibility as a creator. Julian further indicates that "If technology is occasionally monstrous and users sometimes hostile, it is far more often true that the creators and vendors of technology pay little or no attention to the fit of that technology with society" (154). In *Frankenstein*, Victor has never thought about the purpose of creating this monster since he does not know what is suitable for the society. In other words, Victor's humanity is thoroughly absent during the process of creating this monster. Therefore, he becomes completely unconscious after creating this monster since he does not know what the next step is. Mary Shelley admonishes readers that the lack of solicitude for the creators can lead to the absence of humanity during the creating process through Victor's tragic life. As a result, Shelley encourages people to pay more attention to scientists to arouse their humanity during experiments.

Conclusion

As an inseparable element, technology needs to be acknowledged properly. As one of the founders of science fiction novels, Mary Shelley manages to teach readers how to control technology through a negative example. Shelley reveals the potential danger of technology not to prevent people from developing it but to admonish people to treat it with proper manners, with humanity.

Technology should serve people as an aid to extend their values. It is true that technology is ruthless since it is only a media for human beings to convey their emotions. Therefore, there is no need for anyone to fear technology since technology is always submissive to human beings. Instead of spending time on arguing the righteousness of technology, people should spend more time paying attention to the scientists and produce creations that are suitable and beneficial to the society.

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Subjugation of Technology: The Conquering Power of Humanity in Frankenstein

Emory University, Georgia, October 27 2015

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Personal Reflection (Final Draft)

This is the first time I've ever written a literature research paper. I only wrote several science research paper before. However, I found some similarities between these two. First of all, both require the author to be extremely objective. I had to find an evidence either from the book or scholar articles to prove every sentence I wrote. In addition, I had to close read the sources I chose again in order to verify whether I understood the author correctly. I've done the same thing for science research paper as well. Nevertheless, literature research paper requires much more analysis and critical thinking skills than science ones. For science research papers, I only need to state the fact and draw to a conclusion based on the fact since there is only one answer to a scientific question. Literature research paper, on the other hand, requires me to think more critically. I need to figure out what the author means by stating this and interpret the author's idea in my own words. Furthermore, I have to link my own ideas with the author's idea and draw to a conclusion. As a result, I find literature research paper rather challenging but interesting at the same time. I enjoy learning from others' ideas and provide my own perspective as a response. It feels like I am exchanging ideas with these authors face to face and arguing sometimes. This learning experience is unforgettable, and I am looking forward to more.

FinalPaper

Junhao “Steven” Cao

Dec.8th 2015

Eng 181 – 004

Humanity behind Technology: Presence of Humanity in *Frankenstein*

Introduction

When Nicolaus Copernicus corrected people’s views towards the space, they were frightened, and the next generation found that fear laughable; when incandescent light bulb dispelled darkness and illuminated people’s lives, they were terrified, and the next generation made fun of their attitudes; nowadays, artificial intelligence emerges, people, once again, fear. As one of the first science-fiction novels, Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* (1831) arouses the discussion over whether or not people should keep developing technology at a breath-taking pace. Literature scholars have considered several explanations based on both the novel and the social environment regarding this question. Some scholars argue that *Frankenstein* demonstrates how human beings’ improper manners impel their creatures to become detrimental to the society, so that people should continue advancing technology but with discretion. Nevertheless, the public seems to sink into the fear fostered by fictional works and thus opposing to technology.

This paper examines opposing scholarly perspectives on the role of technology in *Frankenstein*. Using several passages from the novel to validate the arguments made by each side reveal that the fear conveyed in *Frankenstein* is superficial and should not hinder people from developing the technology. Technologies are extensions of human desires, a point that

needs to be clarified since many people believe that Frankenstein portrays a tragic story in which technology eliminates humanity. The novel has shown readers how to subjugate technologies through one of the most important values that all human beings share: humanity. **People often misinterpret technology in *Frankenstein* as a terminator of humanity; however, Mary Shelly utilizes the artificial intelligence as an extension of human desires, demonstrates humanity behind the horrifying appearance of the monster and manages to raise people's attention towards technicians.**

Technology, an Extension of Human Desires

Technology, often misunderstood as a substitution of traditional values such as love or relationship, cannot serve as a fundamental value that replaces or eliminates any traits of a human being. Technology “serves to express, aid, and extend values” (Vargish 325). In other words, technology is manageable as long as people can manage their own desires. In *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley uses a parallel structure between the monster and Victor Frankenstein to demonstrate how technology, referring to the monster, is driven by Victor's characteristics and desires.

While introducing himself to the readers at the beginning of the novel, Victor mentions that “[his] temper was sometimes violent, and [his] passions vehement; but by some law in [his] temperament they were turned not towards childish pursuits but to an eager desire to learn” (19). Victor regards knowledge as one of the essential values in his life and dedicates himself to learning. Coincidentally, the monster expresses a similar desire towards knowledge when he acquires “Paradise Lost, a volume of Plutarch's Lives, and the Sorrows of Werter” (91) from a cottage. The monster gains not only ecstasy but also knowledge from reading. He begins to question his origin and also the world in a philosophical way: “Who was I? What was I? Whence

did I come? What was my destination?” (91) The monster’s instinct to learn and his efficiency of learning astonishes Victor; nevertheless, Victor fails to realize that the monster inherits this trait from him and further extends it. The monster, as a symbol of technology, unconsciously derives his eagerness of learning from Victor’s desire to gain knowledge.

This parallel structure also emerges when Victor breaks his promise and destroys the monster’s potential female companion. After witnessing an extermination of the work that Victor begins, the monster becomes frenzied and guarantees that he will “make [Victor] so wretched that the light of day will be hateful to [him]” (122). The monster then carries his promise out by murdering Victor’s fiancée, which maddens Victor. Victor, with rage erupted from his eyes, swears that “[he] devote[s] [himself], either in [his] life or death, to [the monster’s] destruction” (148). The parallel structure is rather vivid in this example. Victor and the monster share the same characteristic: vengeance, and they both execute it to an extreme. Again, Victor fails to realize that the monster learns this vengeful trait from him. As a character with more power, the monster easily avenges for his loss; however, Victor spends his whole life attempting to avenge for his fiancée. The monster is essentially an extension of Victor’s traits. Unfortunately, Victor drives the monster to become a vengeful figure.

Vargish, a literature scholar, states in his research journal, “Values tend to be ends in themselves rather than means, though they often function as empowering motives” (326). Vargish distinguishes values from technology explicitly. Unlike values, technology should be viewed as a media that people often use to express and further extend their values instead of serving as another fundamental value and thus replacing humanity. Mary Shelley uses Victor as an example to illustrate that even though technology might not always be beneficial, it is often directly or indirectly driven by human desires. Victor unfortunately fails to manage his own

desire and leads to his tragic life, a point that is often misinterpreted since many readers believe the advanced technology is the major reason of Victor's misery. Through this parallel structure, Mary Shelley demonstrates clearly that artificial intelligence will only adopt characteristics from human being, especially the creator of it, which makes technology more controllable and less dangerous since human being can thoroughly subjugate technology as long as they can manage their own desires.

Humanity behind Monstrous Appearances

Orlin Damyanov, an undergraduate student from American University of Paris, interprets *Frankenstein* as an admonition to human beings. Damyanov states that artificial intelligence will become an “unambiguous danger to our human community” and that people should stop developing technology rapidly so that those fictional creatures will not become flesh and eliminate humanity. The image of the monster in *Frankenstein* has deeply entrapped Damyanov in the swamp of fear. Damyanov's opinion reflects the public's view upon *Frankenstein* since in the scholar article written by Nerlich, Brigitte, David D. Clarke, and Robert Dingwall, the authors argue that fictional works “nourish and reflect the general public's fears about an increasing process of biological hybridization” (37). These three authors comment that technology, which in their case, cloning, is a “topic deeply distorted in the popular understanding by the lurid nightmares of science fiction” (45).

As an author of a fictional novel, Mary Shelley intentionally implements horrifying elements to her novel in order to attract readers' interests. In the author's introduction of *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley admits that her purpose of commencing *Frankenstein* is to “speak to the mysterious fears of our nature and awaken thrilling horror ---- one to make the reader dread to look round, to curdle the blood, and quicken the beatings of the heart” (vii). Doubtlessly, Mary

Shelley succeeded in dragging readers' attentions; nonetheless, the vivid description of the monster fosters an inapprehension between Shelley and readers and causes some of her readers to believe that artificial intelligence eliminates humanity in *Frankenstein*. As a matter of fact, humanity presents frequently in the novel.

While speaking with his creator, the monster expresses his desire to obtain a female companion. Reasonably, Victor rejects his proposal since he cannot believe that the monster will fulfill his promise of never coming back to the human society. In order to convince his creator, the monster elaborates on his reasons, "the love of another will destroy the cause of my crimes, and I shall become a thing of whose existence everyone will be ignorant" (106). His words are moving and demonstrate humanity. It is ironical that the monster, who readers often consider as the terminator of humanity, presents such an appealing speech. This scene refutes those who suggest that artificial intelligence dispels humanity from a world since humanity exists among artificial creatures.

The fear that Mary Shelley intentionally creates has an overwhelming impact on Damyanov's view of technology; yet, Damyanov neglects the fact that humanity is a characteristic owned not only by human being, but also by artificial creatures. As a result, Damyanov's anxiety, the worries that artificial intelligence might eradicate humanity, is not worthy of consideration because humanity is one of the major attributes of an artificial intelligence. People should not let these dreadful but fictional stories blind their eyes. Therefore, suspending the development of technology due to the unnecessary fear becomes rather absurd.

Raise the Awareness towards the Technicians

The previous two passages mainly focus on how people should treat technology and maintain humanity through the process. This article will, on the other hand, shift the concern from technology to the technicians. Besides the artificial creatures, it is also critical to raise people's awareness towards the technicians since their emotions have significant impacts on their creations.

Victor has devoted his life to reincarnate the monster. His devotion leads not only to his success but also his lack of purposes and supports. At the moment he manages to resurrect the monster, he feels “the beauty of the dream vanished, and breathless horror and disgust filled [his] heart” (35). As a scientist who masters subjects in the science field, Victor has received little moral or ethical education. Furthermore, he rarely steps out of his laboratory so that his social life is also limited. His life has no purpose besides creating this monster. As a result, he fails to respond correctly and take responsibility of the monster and thus causing himself to suffer. According to Julian E. Orr, “both machines and their users need understanding, help, explanation, negotiation, and translation for the machines to function in the world” (150). In his article, he compares the creature in *Frankenstein* as a technical machine and argues that if Victor had received sympathy from the society such as supports from an organization or advice from friends, Victor would have not run away from his creature in the first place. Victor would rather correctly respond to the monster's actions and take his responsibility as a creator. Orr further indicates that “If technology is occasionally monstrous and users sometimes hostile, it is far more often true that the creators and vendors of technology pay little or no attention to the fit of that technology with society” (154). In *Frankenstein*, Victor has never thought about the purpose of creating this monster since he does not know what is suitable for the society. In other words,

Victor's humanity is thoroughly absent during the process of creating this monster. Therefore, he becomes completely unconscious after creating this monster since he does not know what the next step is. Mary Shelley admonishes readers that the lack of sympathy for the creators can lead to the absence of humanity during the creating process through Victor's tragic life. As a result, Shelley encourages people to pay more attention to scientists to arouse their humanity during experiments.

Conclusion

As an inseparable element, technology needs to be acknowledged properly. As one of the founders of science fiction novels, Mary Shelley indicates that if people are able to manage their own desires, reveal humanity behind the appearance, and offer enough care to technicians, artificial intelligence can never be harmful to the society. Technology should serve as an aid to extend values of people. It is true that technology is ruthless because it is only a media for human beings to convey their emotions after all. Hence, there is no need for anyone to fear technology for technology is always submissive to human beings.

People are often terrified by things that challenge their traditional views, given the fact that they are used to their previous lifestyle. Just as heliocentric theory and light bulbs, artificial intelligence could potentially lead to a revolution among the entire human race and reshape the way people live. It is regretful to suspend the research of artificial intelligence, because otherwise the next generation might find people nowadays derisive due to their fear towards advancing technology. As a masterpiece, *Frankenstein* reveals that artificial intelligence is manageable by people and will never exterminate humanity. In addition, the novel has proven that discouraging technicians instead of supporting them will only lead to a tragic consequence. As a result, people should keep advancing technology but in proper manners.

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Personal Reflection (Final Paper)

In this final version of my paper, I made some major revisions including the thesis statement and the topic sentences. In my previous draft, my thesis statement was built around a social issue: people tend to oppose to technology. I built my whole research paper around this argument; however, after reading the comment from my instructor and consulting advisors from writing center, I figured that this thesis statement did not work since I should focus more on the novel itself instead of a social issue. I asked my instructor what I should do during appointments, and she suggested me to start with novel and focus majorly on it. I could relate the novel with social issues at the end of each paragraph and in the conclusion part, but I should not spend a large portion of my work on it. As a result, I rewrote my thesis statement and shifted the focus to how Mary Shelley presented humanity behind the monstrous figure. In order to make my research paper more relevant to the novel, I revised the introduction and conclusion part of both first and third paragraph. Unfortunately, my previous second paragraph did not quite fit my new thesis, so I decided to rewrite the whole paragraph. I shifted the concentration from comparing the difference between scholar works and public comments to how Mary Shelley implemented humanity in the novel. After that, I felt this paragraph became much more suitable to my thesis statement and the requirement of this assignment. I also wrote a hook before the introduction and referred to the hook at the end of my research paper in order to make my paper more interesting to read. I rephrased some of the sentences and avoided awkward wording by consulting the ESL tutors. I really enjoy this writing process since I felt I actually learned a lot by revising my previous work. I felt my writing skill has advanced a lot after taking this course, and I could not wait to write more.

