**Directions**: Read and analyze the following text. Highlight the claim, underline the reasoning, put in the parenthesis the (evidence), and in the bracket the [counterarguments].

**GROUP 1**

**TECHNOLOGY MAKING US LESS INTELLIGENT**

Technological advancements have led to a decline in critical thinking skills and cognitive abilities. Technological tools have made it easier to access information and complete tasks without the need for sustained cognitive effort. For example, search engines provide instant answers to complex questions, and GPS devices eliminate the need for map-reading skills. A study published in the journal Computers & Education found that students who were allowed to use laptops in class performed significantly worse on exams than students who were not allowed to use laptops. The researchers attributed this difference to the fact that laptops provide a distraction-free environment that is conducive to critical thinking and deep learning. Additionally, the constant bombardment of information and notifications from technological devices can impair our ability to focus and concentrate. This can lead to a decline in cognitive function and overall intellectual performance.

A study published in the journal Nature Neuroscience found that people who are frequently interrupted by their smartphones experience cognitive deficits similar to those caused by sleep deprivation. The researchers concluded that these interruptions disrupt our working memory and make it difficult to focus on tasks that require sustained cognitive attention. Some people might argue that technology has actually made us more intelligent by providing us with access to a vast amount of information and resources. They might also argue that technology has enabled us to collaborate and communicate with others more effectively, which has led to new discoveries and innovations. While it is true that technology has many benefits, it is important to use it in a way that is mindful and intentional. When we use technology passively, such as by scrolling through social media or watching TV, it can actually have a negative impact on our cognitive abilities. The widespread adoption of technology has had a profound impact on our lives, both positive and negative. It is important to be aware of the potential drawbacks of technology, such as its ability to impair our critical thinking skills and cognitive abilities. We should strive to use technology in a way that enhances our lives, not detracts from them.

**Directions**: Read and analyze the following text. Highlight the claim, underline the reasoning, put in the parenthesis the (evidence), and in the bracket the [counterarguments].

**GROUP 2**

**THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ON OUR COGNITIVE ABILITIES**

Technology can enhance our cognitive abilities by providing us with access to a vast amount of information and resources, enabling us to collaborate and communicate with others more effectively, and training us to think critically and solve problems in new ways.cTechnology has made it easier than ever for us to access information from all over the world. We can use search engines to find answers to our questions, read articles and books online, and watch educational videos. This access to information can help us to learn new things, expand our horizons, and develop our critical thinking skills. A study published in the journal Psychological Science found that students who were given access to online resources performed better on exams than students who did not have access to these resources. The researchers attributed this difference to the fact that online resources provide students with access to a wider range of information and allow them to learn at their own pace. Technology has also made it easier for us to collaborate and communicate with others. We can use email, video conferencing, and social media to stay in touch with colleagues, friends, and family members. This collaboration and communication can help us to learn from others, share ideas, and solve problems more effectively.

A study published in the journal Nature found that teams that collaborated online were more creative and innovative than teams that collaborated in person. The researchers attributed this difference to the fact that online collaboration allows teams to tap into a wider range of expertise and perspectives. Finally, technology can train us to think critically and solve problems in new ways. Video games, for example, have been shown to improve our spatial reasoning and problem-solving skills. Educational software can also help us to learn new concepts and skills in a fun and engaging way. A study published in the journal PLoS One found that students who played video games performed better on math and science tests than students who did not play video games. The researchers attributed this difference to the fact that video games require players to think critically and solve problems in real time. Some people might argue that technology is actually harming our cognitive abilities by making us more distracted and less focused. They might also argue that technology is making us lazy and dependent on machines. It is true that technology can be distracting and addictive. However, it is also important to remember that technology is a tool. Like any tool, it can be used for good or for bad. It is up to us to use technology in a way that enhances our cognitive abilities, not detracts from them.

Technology has the potential to have a positive impact on our cognitive abilities by providing us with access to a vast amount of information and resources, enabling us to collaborate and communicate with others more effectively, and training us to think critically and solve problems in new ways. However, it is important to use technology in a mindful and intentional way to maximize its benefits and minimize its potential drawbacks.