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Essay Title: **Is technology critical to a live presentation? Or is technology just a crutch?**

As society shifts into a digitally advanced era, it is essential to view technology as kinetic. Whether through pictorial slideshows, videos, or sound the digital world has rapidly influenced young people to express themselves in the most intrinsic way. As a senior in high school, I feel that my generation is driven by modern technology because it feeds our innate curiosities and allows us to communicate with ease. However, many believe that we lose a sense of self-thought due the dependent “crutch” we have on technology. I believe that if technology can assist and enhance live presentations in getting the purpose across, then we can truly reap its benefits.

Throughout my high school, there are an assortment of MacBooks, Activ Boards, and televisions. By utilizing these tools, teachers are able to facilitate interactive lessons by not simply lecturing, but by displaying video clips and hands-on activities through medias like ActivBoard Presentations. According to the co-founder and CEO of Marzano Reseach Library, Dr. Robert J. Marzano, states that interactive technological tools can change the face of teaching in terms of how teachers engage with students.

With technology, students can reciprocate the understanding of the curriculum in live presentations. It is necessary to attain presentation skills in order to convey messages and ideas to others. Alongside spoken words, images and music can aid visual and auditory learners in the audience. A microphone can amplify one voice to millions of people. Technology only hinders a presentation when it overpowers the speaker.

Overall, it is important for speakers to adapt and be flexible. From leading National Honor Society meetings to hosting school pep rallies, I like to approach situations where I have to speak with a positive outlook. Like John F. Kennedy said, “Man is still the most extraordinary computer of all.”