WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people are concerned that children spend too much time on computers - playing games, chatting and watching videos. But all this time is actually good preparation for children, who will have to spend many hours working on computers throughout their education and working lives. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

You should write at least 250 words.

Computers are known commonplace in every home. In fact, most households in the modern world contain 2 or even more. The newer generations have grown up with these instruments and using them is second nature to them. So much so that they are increasingly spending more and more time online than they do in the real world. Although this might seem as an unnatural habit, some have even called it an addiction, but there are many benefits to use of computers which although might not be obvious at first will greatly shape the way young people are being brought up.

To a person having no interaction with modern technology it might seem like a time-sink. Internet chatting and instant messaging applications have always been the first culprit, ignoring the fact that these chatting applications can open one's eyes to the world. They provide a platform for people of different nationalities and backgrounds to meet together, allowing our youth to explore other cultures, gaining a new perspective on life and understanding our world better.

Video games are another form of misunderstood technology. Computer games are an extremely effective educational medium which teaches it's audience new skills in an intuitive and seamless manner. A great example would be math learning games. They combine all the enjoyable and addictive aspects of video games with a rigorous mental math curriculum and as the player gradually progresses through the game he is taught to calculate increasing difficult algebra and math equations without using pen and paper and in a limited time. This is one of countless other examples that show that a personal computer can be an effective educational medium.

Computer, mobile phones and tablets are all relatively new. We have not fully grasped what can be achieved by these devices and being worried that children are spending too much time on these devices is a natural reaction. However, we must realize that there are a lot of benefits that can be reaped from this new innovation and we need not be concerned about its use by our children.