- After watching the video, write a journal entry about how you think the media influences our understanding about cybersecurity

From the video, it can be noted that the facet of cybersecurity can be gauged very differently in television and movies as opposed to what truly happens in real life. Some aspects of cybersecurity shown are in line with how they function in real life but other aspects shown simply do not happen.

For example, certain clips from the video contain some real elements in the field of cybersecurity as well as hacking. Aspects such as obfuscating code to conceal the true purpose. Obfuscating code is commonly used in malware in an attempt to trick the user into unknowingly downloading malicious software. Also, shown in the first clip, code would not make a map on a screen like it did in the movie. Obviously, some aspects of this concept were created for drama purposes or intensity in the movie to keep the audience invested as some people may not be interested in the art of cybersecurity. In another aspect of the video, a CTF (capture the flag) represents a real event for hacking and DEF CON is also a real event but some aspects of these real elements are dramatized. In the show, the challenge the hackers had to participate in was similar to a real world event of CTF in 2017.

Another clip from the video, utilized the elements of interpretation with respect to cybersecurity. In this scenario, movie writers stretched the limit on tightly interpreted facets of cybersecurity. For instance, with respect to automobiles, hackers cannot infiltrate all makes and models of these vehicles to control the driving paradigms. Hackers could really only break into the code of a limited number of vehicles in this time (around 2016) or even today. The fact that this hacking debacle broke into all makes and models of vehicles dramatized the hacking effort to be extremely widespread to enhance viewer anticipation efforts.

In conclusion, media outlets such as television shows and movies provide content that could skew ideas and viewpoints on cybersecurity facets. These media outlets often provide a mixture of real world elements, as well as fictional elements to sensationalize events and create tension among audience members. These media efforts are created in an effort to raise the retention of the viewpoint as related to these scenarios and make them interested in the movie or show. Overall, the goal of these media outlets is to make an interesting story so writers take real elements and try to make them appeal to a wider target audience by mixing in elements of fiction that simply do not occur in the real world cybersecurity field.