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Is Google Negatively Affecting Our Intelligence?

Google is viewed mostly in being a fast and reliable source in order to achieve information. In the article, “ Is Google Making Us Stupid?”, by Nicholas Carr and Peter Norvig, it shows us the pros and cons of using the very widely known site, Google. However, all this attention to Google makes us ask ourselves, Is Google Making Us Stupid? Google is, in fact, slowing us down for three main reasons: lack of brain development, too distracting, and not allowing us to think deeply.

Our minds are being developed everyday by how much information we take in. Simply by going to Google, you are not able to learn how to find information on your own since Google will be doing all the thinking for you. In the article, Is Google Making Us Stupid?, by Nicholas Carr, he writes, “ In the blink of an eye, The search engine delivers useful information about pretty much any subject imaginable.” Nowadays, people wouldn’t bother going to the library or reading a newspaper, they would have every bit of information at their fingertips. The same article writes, “ If you’re really interested in developing your mind, you should turn off your computer. The more time we stay away from technology will help us keep our minds cleared and relaxed. This will make learning easier. This is one of the three reasons why Google is making us Stupid.

Another reason why Google is slowing us down is because it’s becoming too much of a distraction. When we are distracted we tend not to learn as much as those who are always

focused. Not only will this make us unsuccessful in the future, it will also reduce our chances of increasing our intelligence. Going back to the article, "If we're distracted, we understand less, remember less, and learn less." Of course, Google will be able to give us the information we are looking for. However, there is no point in receiving information that we will not learn or remember if we are too distracted with Google itself. Another point in the article that is made is, "When we use our computers and our cell-phones all the time, we're always distracted." Not only is this unbeneficial for students, like myself, who always need to be focused while in class, but also for adults. If adults are distracted while doing their jobs, their bosses would not be very pleased. This is the second reason why Google is making us Stupid.

Finally, the usage of Google is not allowing us to think deeply. Thinking deeply will help our minds flourish with more creative ideas. Without creativity, we probably wouldn't have had all the new inventions being made today. In the article it writes, "The fact is you'll never think deeply if you're always Googling, texting, and surfing." The you're not learning to think deeply and critically, you are reducing your chances in becoming an independent thinker. Another piece of evidence is, "What really makes us intelligent isn't our ability to find lots of information." Google will find all the information we need with the click of a mouse. However, it is our job to use that information and put a lot of thought into it. That is something Google will not do for you! This is the final reason why Google is indeed making us stupid.

In the end, Google may seem like a harmless, easy way to get information. However, these three reasons show why Google is not at all what it seems, lack of brain developing, too distracting, and not thinking deeply. These reasons should not be taken for granted because they

all follow a pattern. If we are distracted we are not able to think deeply and if we are not thinking deeply, our minds are not as likely to full develop.