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“Siri, Am I Smart?”

Millions of people around the world have a smartphone or modern electronic device, constantly looking through the internet without a thought, like a web it's something you can never get out of. Google is a search engine that can answer many of your questions, able to take you to millions of websites all over the internet, it can open a doorway to useful information, or funny cat videos, with millions of users throughout the world. Many people believe that the use of these resources, primarily Google, can affect someone's intelligence and ability to think.

Multiple authors take upon the topic and discuss the effect of Google. For example, Source A, an article written by Nicholas Carr and Peter Norvig, Source B, an article written by Genevieve Roberts, and Source C, an infographic constructed and written by colleges.net, suggest the both positive and negative effects of Google. I firmly believe that the internet with the guidance of Google, negatively affects people's intelligence for three main reasons, the internet can be a distraction, it doesn't help remember certain ideas, and it can disrupt the ability of deep thought and knowledge.

To begin with, the first reason why I believe that Google is negatively affecting our intelligence is its use as a distraction. Many people have mobile devices and when they have this technology glued to their faces, it takes them away from the real world and things that can be very crucial to themselves or the people around them. For instance, the author of Source C illustrates this point when it states, “The Net bombards us with us with messages and other bits of

data, and everyone of those interruptions breaks our train of thought. We end up scatterbrained.”

This quote demonstrates that when you are constantly distracted, you cannot process the important information properly as you stray away from your initial point of going on to the internet. I have personally gone on to the internet browsing for information, but getting distracted in the process, the internet takes away the thought process and knowledge that I was looking for, thus decreasing the knowledge as I couldn't put the internet down creating a distraction for educational work or spontaneously, real world situations. That's why I believe that Google is negatively affecting our intelligence, as it creates multiple distractions from the world and ourselves.

To further discuss, the second reason why I believe that Google is negatively affecting our intelligence is that the internet doesn't allow an efficient intake in details and knowledge. For example, the author of Source C states in the infographic, “With search engines available all the time, we don't encode the information internally, because when we need it, we will look it up on the internet.” This proves that as people can look up on the internet, they won't want to memorize the fact instead remember where they found it. This can decrease intelligence as people will not be able to gain skills in memorizing, which can be very alarming in having the need to remember important things. Another example can be found on Source B when the author states, “A Microsoft study found the average human attention span fell from 12 seconds in 200 to eight seconds today.” This proves that as more people are constantly on google, they will get more distracted than lose interest in what they should be focusing on. This is important because they can lose interest in their studies, which can cause a decrease in their intelligence compared to the rest of the classmates, which proves that using Google may decrease people's intelligence.

Lastly, the final reason why I believe that Google is negatively affecting people's is the internet disrupting the idea and ability of deep thought and knowledge. Deep thought is when you really and efficiently use your brain to think of a solution, and when someone is always on their device, it disrupts and stops that process. For instance, the author of Source C states, "Our new habits may interfere in the development of deep, conceptual knowledge." This proves that we can't properly think as we are moving through, from tab to tab, getting easily distracted, which decreasing our train of thought and intelligence. The author of Source B suggest, "With the internet, everything is a click away, when we don't know something know something, we are primed to turn on the computer to rectify the situation." This proves that instead of thinking deeply, our first resource we use is the internet, instead of properly using our brains, which is insufficient as we won't ever be able to solve problems ourselves, and we might always rely on something else artificial, which can negatively impact our intelligence.

To wrap things up, the internet negatively affects people's intelligence for thee main reasons, the internet can be a distraction, it doesn't help remember certain ideas, and it can disrupt the ability of deep thought and knowledge. The fact that many may face the treacherous effects of Google, is very disappointing, as it is important that one becomes intelligent and uses their brain for good, for which is much more aspiring than having your eyesight disappear as you constantly glare at the colorful text projecting from your device. The situation is important because if your knowledge decreases, you won't be able to grow academically and neither will the world around you. So, it is important that you not have your train of thought derailed by the villain that is Google.