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Period 7-8

Language Arts

Is Google Negatively Affecting Our Intelligence?

Google is the most used internet searching engine to date. Almost everyone with Internet access uses google on a daily basis, personally I am part of that “Almost everyone” You undoubtedly used google to find this Evidence-Based Argumentative Writing. With this fascinating and revolutionary search engine we now have access to any information in an instant. Speculation and criticism of Google has sparked a new question. Is Google negatively affecting our intelligence? Google does not negatively affect our intelligence, on the contrary it benefits our intelligence. Evidence from Peter Norvig of *The New York Times Upfront & onlinecolleges.net*, illustrators of an infographic prove that Google; can help us explore topics & interests, give us accessible and instant information, improve & build online skills, and Google does not negatively affecting our intelligence.

First off, Google has helped us explore & discover new interests Peter Norvig state's,"I could hunt through these or turn to Google, which returns 45,000 pages, including a definitive article and instructions." Before I was introduced to Google, I always struggled finding books or articles of my interests. For example, in my elementary years I was fascinated by the military and astronomy, which I still am to this day but not as much, Finding books or articles about them were a struggle. I found it nearly impossible to find a new book on either of these topics. If i was able to somehow find one I would of previously read them or they would be outdated by a

decade or more. After Google, I found various websites about this topic & even discovered new related topics I found worth my time to research. In addition, "The internet contains the world's best writing, images, and ideas; Google lets us find the relevant pieces instantly. (Peter Norvig)" Various websites contain the topics we enjoy. We can find new hobbies or instructions for everyday tasks. Google may be a distraction, however, Peter said, "...81 percent of experts polled by the Pew Internet Research say the opportunities outweigh the distraction." Google is mainly used for research instead for entertainment. This is why schools use Google. Google is a quick way to access and explore topics which leads us to the next paragraph.

Next, Google is quick and accessible. There is little doubt that Google has failed us in information distribution. "With the internet, everything is just a click away. When we don't know something, we are primed to turn to the computer to rectify the solution.

(onlinecolleges.net)" Let's call the pre-Google times "primitive" times. In these "primitive" times information was difficult to access. People looking for new information for an essay would probably spend too much time in a library scanning shelf by shelf, book by book to find an old outdated book. In fact, Google lets us know what is happening anywhere in the world. Peter state's, "...they are likely to see ideas from left to right, and see from left to right, and see how news is reported in other countries." In this age, it is important to know what is going on in the world. If you don't you will be lost. We know anything from wars to natural-disasters quickly thanks to Google. Google has helped everyone access information instantly. This digital age is not backing up and we will continue to discover new methods of information distribution.

Finally, Google has helped us build skills. People find this debatable but, it's true.

"...access to the internet's information lets us think better and faster. By considering a wide range

of information, we can arrive at more creative and informal solutions.(Peter Norvig)” With Google we, as mentioned earlier can explore topics. We build opinions & thoughts on topics. We side on controversial topics, take gun control for example. We are also exposed to a lot of information. Google has liberated us from constant forcefull information memorization. “We’ve stored information in our computer-based & they’ve become more accessible than ever before.(onlinecolleges.net)” We don’t have to remember everything. We can use a Google document & type all information for future purposes. We humans can only recall so much, it can change memorized information. “Our recall is flawed. Everytime we recall a memory we also remake it. Google acts like a fast-checker.(onlinecolleges.net)” This happens to me. Im only human so I use Google and it does work as a fast-checker. Some people say this will negatively affect a long term memory due to our constant use of Google. However, “Accessable information doesn’t necessarily weaken memories. It can reinforce them and be a great source for innovation.(onlinecolleges.net)” Google doesn’t intentionally mean any harm. This invention, if use properly, builds skills for online use.

In Conclusion, Google doesn’t negatively affect our intelligence. It is full of benefits. It is an exploration tool for interests, accessable and quick information, and helps us build skills. Google is just the beginning of the digital age. New mwthods will be found to help us access information. We can’t Google every single fact available hoping to become genius, but it's a resourceful tool.