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Is Google negatively affecting our intelligence?

The source of life, a way to find out if a rash is life threatening, or just a simple search engine, Google continues to make its way into the hearts and daily routines of many. With the click of a button, all the symptoms of a fatal disease spring up. But why is Google always the first choice as an informational source? Has this search engine consumed the ability to think of its users? “Is Google Making Us Stupid?,” “Google Effect: is technology making us stupid?, and “A Study of Students’ Online research Behavior” all explore the true consequences of the beloved Google, and the effect it has on its users. Google is decreasing the intelligence of its users because it leaves them scatterbrained, leaves new habits of looking everything up, and it results in digital amnesia.

First of all, Google is negatively affecting its users’ brains by leaving them scatterbrained. Individuals become hypnotised by the Net and neglect their day-to-day lives, they are always thinking about what to look at next. According to an article, “Is Google Making Us Stupid?,” and adaptation of [The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains](#) by Nicholas Carr, “ When we use our computers and our cellphones all the time, we’re always distracted.” Those who are always longing for their devices miss out on the real world and are always in a daze. This leaves them lost in the real world, eventually this will decrease their ability to think and overall analyse their surroundings because they will not even be aware of where they are.

Even crossing the street could become a daily challenge, due to the fact that people are entranced by the Web. The attention of the people is always kept on the Web, solely because they are always receiving notifications from it. Furthermore, as stated in “Is Google Making Us Stupid?,” “The Net bombards us with messages and other bits of data, and every one of those interruptions breaks our train of thought. We end up scatterbrained.” Google ruptures people’s ability to think because it distracts them. People can never be focused on just one task, and when they are they have a million other things on their head. Even at home, while doing homework, kids will reach for their phones to look something up, but never actually go back to their work and stay on their devices. Google has taken over its users’ brains, leaving them scatterbrained and creating new bad habits.

To continue, Google lessens the ability to think of the people by engraving bad habits into their brains. As reported by “A Study of Students’ Online research Behavior,” an infographic, “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 situation” (online colleges.net). Before, when people were in need of information, they would go read a book, now everyone runs to a computer and types their questions. Instead of intellectuals the masses have become superficial, and unable to think for themselves. When people read it allows them to formulate their own ideas on certain topic, with access to Google, the ideas are given to them. This decreases the people's’ ability to critically think about their world. In addition, “A Study of Students’ Online research Behavior,” states, “Our new habits may interfere in the development of deep, conceptual knowledge.” Though Google informs people, and they have become so quick at clicking away, that is not intelligence. The true ability to think for one’s self is intelligence, and

this ability is been decreased due to the access to Google. New habits that have been formed to Google everything strip everybody of their own ability to think and form ideas. Sure, Google informs people, but what if the information is false? People will be walking around misinformed, spreading false ideas around, and not knowing it since they have become so inclined to trust Google and the Internet in general. Google not only leaves people lost, and with new bad habits, but can also affect their memory.

Last but not least, Google decreases the intelligence of the people by causing digital amnesia. People know where to find the information, but don't even know what the information is. "Google Effect: is technology making us stupid?" reports, "A recent study (you've probably forgotten it by now) suggests 90 percent of us are suffering from digital amnesia. "Google and technology have negative long-term effects on people and their memories. If an individual is stranded and left without their device, the possibility of them knowing a family member's phones number is thirty percent. This overall decreases their real world intelligence, as they fail to find a means to get out of their current situation. People have become so reliant on the Web, that they won't even take the time to remember information, and just trust the Internet to store it, leaving them helpless without it. Uninformed and forgetful is what Google causes people to be, but could there be other side effects? According to The Independent Tech, yes, "Science tell us that memory consolidation involves attentiveness: it's in the process that you form these connections." Google leads to further difficulties in forming ideas. The intelligence of the people is negatively affected because they will not even be able to connect the dots while thinking, they are stripped of their ability to critically think, and are left with simple superficial ideas.

To conclude, Google decreases the intelligence of its users by leaving them lost in the real world, inducing habits of turning to the Web for everything, and leaving people forgetful. This is so crucial because people have become so accustomed to having Google, that without it people will not be able to survive. Instead of going to a professional for their needs, people turn to Google for all of their questions. Soon, uninformed, forgetful slaves to the Internet will be running around with poop on their face because Google told them to if a stop is not put on the epidemic of this search engine. Google is a problem, but people are too hypnotised and controlled by it to be able to form their own conclusion.