

19 The Earth, as a habitat for animal life, is in old age and has a fatal illness. Several,
 20 in fact. It would be happening whether humans had ever evolved or not. But our
 21 presence is like the effect of an old-age patient who smokes many packs of cigarettes
 22 per day — and we humans are the cigarettes.

1	We thrive in information-thick worlds	hole, pick over, sort, integrate, blend, in-	10
2	because of our marvelous and everyday	spect, filter, lump, skip, smooth, chunk,	11
3	capacity to select, edit, single out, struc-	average, approximate, cluster, aggre-	12
4	ture, highlight, group, pair, merge, har-	gate, outline, summarize, itemize, re-	13
5	monize, synthesize, focus, organize, con-	view, dip into, flip through, browse,	14
6	dense, reduce, boil down, choose, cat-	glance into, leaf through, skim, refine,	15
7	egorize, catalog, classify, list, abstract,	enumerate, glean, synopsise, winnow the	16
8	scan, look into, idealize, isolate, dis-	wheat from the chaff and separate the	17
9	criminate, distinguish, screen, pigeon-	sheep from the goats.	18

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