

It is almost natural for me to plug in my phone and open up the navigation app whenever I first get into my car. It provides me with comfort because my GPS will always tell me what to do next. I enjoy having the navigational system to guide me, despite the limits it may impose on my sense of direction. While there is value in knowing your surroundings without mapping software and devices, the use of navigational systems prove to be beneficial because of its efficiency and ability to save time, as well as the advancements it provides to society and the environment.

Oftentimes, a person's sense of direction and awareness of their surroundings is limited by the use of a GPS. Regardless of the ease and calmness that stems from reliance on a navigation app, using a GPS constantly can have a detrimental impact on a driver's ability to remember how to get from one place to another (Source D). In fact, according to a study described in Source D, there is evidence that proves participants who used a GPS were not able to recall certain features as well as participants who did not use a GPS. For this reason, one mustn't completely rely on mapping software and devices because one must understand their basic surroundings and how to get from one place to another. Driving is a part of everyday life, and being familiar with the roads around you will not only make you a better driver, but a safer one as well. If you are aware and familiar with your surroundings, you will be able to better react to surprises and prevent potential car accidents.

Despite the consequences that navigational maps has on one's sense of direction, using mapping systems while driving allows the driver to save time in a safe and comfortable way. According to Source A, while some without navigational apps may be stuck in traffic, ones with the app are provided with a new route that will save time and prevent the driver from sitting in traffic. Police Chief, Tom Rowe, describes the a navigational app as a "game changer" because it provides him with information on which roads are traffic congested and which routes would be the fastest to take. This demonstrates the efficiency of using navigational apps because of its ability to save time. Although some may argue that navigation apps are merely a distraction and may be unsafe to drivers (Source F), this can be said about all phone use while driving. With that said, manufacturers are innovating ways to prevent the use of phones while still having a GPS available, such as the use of a larger screen that displays clear instructions and road maps without the hassle of a phone.

As well saving time, navigational apps also allow for advancements in our society and environment. According to Source B, people across the globe are providing information that, on a large scale, is beneficial to multiple programs and ideas, such as tourism, public health, environmental impacts, and more. The internet provides the power to bring together the knowledge and observations of millions around the globe in order to benefit society and the environment. For instance, citizens helped in the process of mitigating natural disaster in California by mapping out what areas have been burned from the fires (Source B). The willingness of people to share information for the common good can be attributed to ease of using navigational apps and systems. Therefore, the use of navigational apps prove to have multiple benefits and should be justly and commonly used.

## Sample 1A (2 of 2)

While it is necessary for people to not rely completely on navigational systems, the widespread use is beneficial individually as well as to society as a whole, and therefore should be used commonly.

Mapping software and Global Positioning System are technologies that have made traveling and movement from place to place incredibly easier. It allows people to get from point A to point B without any knowledge of their path or surroundings. All it takes is a phone and a data connection. GPS is an extremely useful tool that presents no negative aspects in the world of driving.

GPS allows drivers to remain in better condition when driving making the entire travel experience far better. Through the use of the GPS, the term "lost" is almost never used. No matter where one is and if one has access to the internet, the chances of that person getting lost is close to nothing. GPS gives directions to places no matter where one is regardless of the direction. Because of these chances, the drivers ability to stay calm when driving is far greater than when they must rely on paper maps. Since there is quite a low chance of getting lose, there is almost no worry that affects the driver and the people in the car : "The overall effect is that people are more calm when they'er using navigation"(Source D). GPS "induces a state of rest" which allows the drivers to push out all the fear and generally "drive safer"(Source D). When drivers remain more calm, there is a far less chance that they get into an accident and hurt the people the care about. If GPS and other navigation systems bring advantages such as general increased safety, there is no reason why one should not use GPS. It brings upon safety and in the situation of driving, there is no greater importance than safety of the driver and the people in car.

To build on top of the previous paragraph, GPS and navigation systems also bring upon great knowledge of the surrounding area that one is in. GPS functions in a way such that it allows people to create "a global patchwork of geographical information"(Source B). GPS gives "private citizens" the ability and potential to add and create to the entire model of the geography in the surrounding area. When people reach a place, the the information of their surroundings are used for another person who is also trying to reach that place. If one person is moving quite slow in a paticular place, then it is evident that traffics exists in that route. This is how navigation apps determine the fastest route to a specific place. Just like this example, a constant flow of information from each person's phone is being sent and used to create a geographical model of one's surroundings. This massive amount of information and knowledge could be used for countless aspects that are seemingly distant. This information could be utilized in "assisting local tourism and community planning, disaster response" and countless other integral parts of our world. By using GPS, the people are not only making their lives easier, they are also making it far easier for others. It has the potential to save lives and truly help those in need. With such massive advantages under GPS's built, GPS will continue to develop and help society in every way possible.

GPS definitely contains countless benefits and strengths under its belt but problems still exist. Because of the way GPS works, it also brings upon problems in different aspects. Since GPS most vaccated route that would take the fastest time to get to the destination, all the people trying to get to that one place would be directed to that one road. Meaning a usually quiet and distant road would now be packed with cars all trying to go one specific place. This would especially horrible during rush hours and for the residents of that secluded street, the noise and commotion could be devastating. When an abnormal amount cars enter a street

that is not meant for that much traffic, "it's a scenario ripe for accidents; among the top causes of accidents are driver distraction"(Source F). These navigation apps generally make the entire travel experience far longer than before. Due to how these navigations apps function, Leonia, N.J is taking this serious problem into their own hands. Their police force of Leonia blocked up "60 streets to all drivers aside from residents"(Source A). By doing this, the police force was able to block up most of the town limited the scope the navigation apps have. This practically means that excess traffic would stay on the main roads of the city, subsequently solving the problem. Unfortunately, this fix is not permanent and every city does not have the capabilities for something like this. Navigation apps are going to continue causing problems and difficulties without any real way to combat them.

As mapping software continues to become more common throughout the globe, many are beginning to question whether it has had beneficial effects on society. Many countries have been completely mapped all over the globe, but as a result traffic is being diverted from free ways and highways, into residential neighborhoods to avoid traffic rushes. While GPS has done wonders for mapping the globe, it has had many negative effects on residential areas and the way that motorists understand navigation.

Global Positioning Systems, otherwise known as GPS have made travel easier than ever before. When traveling the world, or even a new place you have never been before, navigation can be quite difficult while operating a motor vehicle. Previously, drivers would use paper maps to find the correct route for travel. Now this research can be instantaneous, with updated routes to help escape traffic and provide less distractions while driving. An article from Internet Magazine explains, "Even the classic dashboard gps,... Induces a state of rest. 'The overall effect is that people are more calm when they're using navigation,' ... By extension, they drive safer." (DOC D) With quick and easy navigation, drivers are able to have less distractions while driving. This may help them focus when traveling through unfamiliar territory. On the topic of unfamiliar territory, imagine you are driving through a country in eastern Asia. You can not read the language that the signs are written in, therefore it should be extremely difficult to navigate. However, you have your trusty GPS to help you find your way through this foreign place. This technological advancement could potentially be helpful to travelers all across the world. While GPS seems pretty amazing to most people, it also has its downsides.

One major issue with GPS usage is the way that it diverts traffic from highways into residential areas. This diversion of traffic may seem wonderful for the driver who is able to get to work 5 minutes early, but it can also be hurtful to the locals who live in such residential areas. In a newspaper article, the chief of police from a residential neighborhood explains, "In the morning, if I sign onto my Waze account, I find there are over 250,000 'wazers' in the area" (DOC A) To a small town, 250 thousand cars can be devastating to the functionality of the local roads. Later in the article the chief of police explains that residents aren't able to leave their driveways due to the amount of traffic on their residential streets. So the current dilemma stands, is the five minute detour on your route to work worth the impact your journey has on these residential neighborhoods? No. In fact lawmakers from this town's jurisdiction have begun classifying this town's roads as private to avoid travelers from passing through without probable cause. The issue of mass migrations through residential areas is not the only problem stemming through GPS devices.

GPS have been known to desensitize our sense of direction as well. As we continue to put less effort into memorizing our path, and spend more time putting trust into our GPS, our brains spend less time observing our surroundings. The article from Internet Magazine mentioned earlier also explained the ways that GPS affects our brains and the way we challenge our cognitive abilities, "Participants with stronger hippocampus development tended to navigate with complex cognitive maps, while those with less developed spatial memory memorized turn-by-turn directions." In other words, turn by turn directions provided by GPS systems require less spatial memory and do not challenge the hippocampus to the

same extent. This is true for the majority of GPS users across the globe. For the roughly 164 million smartphone users, over 65% of them use GPS on their smartphones to navigate. (DOC C) This means that a good majority of smart phone users are not challenging their brains with spatial cognitive skills while navigating. Those who choose to travel with GPS are weakening their instinctive navigation abilities.

In conclusion, GPS has important benefits, but it comes with some pretty disappointing consequences. As the world becomes more accessible to travel and exploration, small local neighborhoods become flooded, and instinctive navigation skills become weaker.

Since the beginning of the creation of technology many had struggled finding locations of interests. Once the final Global Positioning Systems or the GPS's were created people seemed at ease. Of course, there were still many issues. Some would come to an extreme difficulty when trying to find the proper signal to continue travelling on the road with the GPS on. There was also a difficulty with being stuck in traffic even when taking a short cut recommended by the GPS.

One reason the use of the GPS is not very effective is because it makes the direction in which you are travelling very confusing. The GPS often times also loses signal, making it more difficult to continue on the road. According to Source B, many experienced "local tourism" and "community planning"(para. 1). These two things did not have a positive effect in the attempt to travel. The National Academies Press may even say it was a "disaster response"(para.1).

The next reason to believe that the use of GPS is terrible is because people lose track of where they are going and in certain occassion may even forget where they are. Climate may also be a factor related to this. According to the fourth document " it effect's the user's ability to remember"(para.2). Not to mention that a cellphone with a GPS installed may even lose battery perventage while giving out directions on how to get somewhere.

Yet another reason is because a GPS may be leading to the incorrect location or mis-communicating with the person using it. Although many do believe that a GPS would be a great thing to use for directions, it does not mention anything about roads being re-constructed or danger zones. This would complicate everything for the person using the software or app. In fact, in the first source Lisa Foderaro mentions that she indeed has experienced something similar, " ...blithely following directions into the residential streets of some unsuspecting town, along with a slew of other frustrated motorists.

Both source b and a so happen to claim that there has been few difficulties while using a GPS system or software on a phone. These experiences are very similar because they are scenarios in which one does not have much control over. It probably would have been a great idea to be advised by the software that there was a difficulty in the road being taken. It is important to also take in mind that by using the GPS one is trying to get to somewhere of interests or somewhere as soon as possible.

To conclude a GPS may seem helpful to just anyone but many have experienced difficulties by using the software or app.

# Sample 1E (1 of 1)

Through reading the documents the most evident argument is that mapping services do more harm than good and based on the documents alone I would agree.

Knowing from real life experiences, mapping systems such as a GPS have been incredibly valuable; but in relation to the documents, they pose a counter-argument. These systems aid many drivers in an unfamiliar situation but also aid to the already high crash rate. Doc B views the mapping systems as a positive thing by stimulating volunteer rates.

In doc A the excerpt shows how the alternate routes can be a detrimental effect to those who cannot leave their driveway. While local residents might feel at a disadvantage due to the alternate routes suggested by apps like Waze, Google maps, and more; the travelers (local or not) can rely on these systems to get to their destination as efficiently as possible.

With that being said; accident rates are higher due to the distraction of a smartphone. In doc F the information presented in Vox Media's post shows the likelihood of accidents and correlates with doc C due to the download rates mentioned in F by showing the uses of maps in comparison to the users of phones in general. The doc E also correlates how often the GPS is used rather than more interpersonal applications.

In conclusion based on documents A-F we can evaluate the extent to which maps can harm those driving and living in the area.



Mapping software and Global Positioning Systems are a valuable asset to travelers, to a certain extent. Navigation systems provide safe and secure ways to get from point A to point B; however, relying on them too much can render someone far less independent.

## Question 1

### Sample Identifier: 1A

Score: 1-4-1

#### A. Thesis (0-1 points): 1

- The response offers a defensible position in paragraph 1: “While there is value in knowing your surroundings without mapping software and devices, the use of navigational systems prove to be beneficial because of it’s efficiency and ability to save time, as well as the advancements it provides to society and the environment.”

#### B. Evidence and Commentary (0-4 points): 4

- The response provides specific evidence to support all claims in its line of reasoning evaluating the value and limitations of mapping software and devices. For example, it states “In fact, according to a study described in Source D, there is evidence that proves participants who used a GPS were not able to recall certain features as well as participants who did not use a GPS” as evidence of the claim that “For this reason, one musn’t completely rely on mapping software and devices because one must understand their basic surroundings and how to get from one place to another.”
- The commentary consistently and clearly explains how the evidence supports the line of reasoning, such as “The willingness of people to share information for the common good can be attributed to ease of using navigational apps and systems.”

#### C: Sophistication (0-1 points): 1

- The response demonstrates sophistication of thought and a complex understanding of the rhetorical situation by consistently identifying and exploring complexities or tensions across the sources. For example, the sophistication is seen in the response when it states, “While it is necessary for people to not rely completely on navigational systems, the widespread use is beneficial individually as well as to society as a whole, and therefore should be used commonly.”

### Sample Identifier: 1B

Score: 1-4-0

#### A. Thesis (0-1 points): 1

- The response offers a defensible position in paragraph one: “GPS is an extremely useful tool that presents no negative aspects in the world of driving.”

#### B. Evidence and Commentary (0-4 points): 4

- The response provides specific evidence to support all claims in its line of reasoning that “Mapping software and Global Positioning System are technologies that have made traveling and movement from place to place incredibly easier.” For example, it states “GPS ‘induces a state of rest’ which allows the drivers to push out all the fear and generally ‘drive

safer’(Source D)” as evidence of the claim that “GPS allows drivers to remain in better condition when driving making the entire travel experience far better.”

- The commentary consistently and clearly explains how the evidence supports the line of reasoning, such as “By using GPS, the people are not only making their lives easier, they are also making it far easier for others.”

### **C. Sophistication (0-1 points): 0**

- The response does not demonstrate sophistication of thought or a complex understanding of the rhetorical situation.

### **Sample Identifier: 1C**

**Score: 1-3-0**

#### **A. Thesis (0-1 points): 1**

- The response offers a defensible position in paragraph one: “While GPS has done wonders for mapping the globe, It has had many negative effects on residential areas and the way that motorists understand navigation.”

#### **B. Evidence and Commentary (0-4 points): 3**

- The response provides specific evidence to support all claims in its line of reasoning. For example it states “the chief of police from a residential neighborhood explains, ‘In the morning, if i sign onto my Waze account, i find there are over 250,000 ‘wazers’ in the area’(DOC A)” as evidence to support the claim that “One major issue with GPS usage is the way that it diverts traffic from highways into residential areas.”
- The commentary explains how some of the evidence supports a line of reasoning, such as “In other words, turn by turn directions provided by GPS systems require less spacial memory and do not challenge the hippocampus to the same extent.”
- However, some commentary does not effectively support a key claim. In paragraph four, the response supports the claim, but commentary for the evidence does not clearly connect to the claim. This is seen when it states “This means that a good majority of smart phone users are not challenging their brains with spatial cognitive skills while navigating.”

### **C. Sophistication (0-1 points): 0**

- The response does not demonstrate sophistication of thought or a complex understanding of the rhetorical situation.

### **Sample Identifier: 1D**

**Score: 1-2-0**

#### **A. Thesis (0-1 points): 1**

- The response offers a defensible position in paragraph one: “Some would come to an extreme difficulty when trying to find the proper signal to continue travelling on the road with the GPS

on. There was also a difficulty with being stuck in traffic even when taking a short cut recommended by the GPS.”

**B. Evidence and Commentary (0-4 points): 2**

- The response provides relevant evidence from three sources. Some evidence is specific; for example, it states “In fact, in the first source Lisa Foderaro mentions that she indeed has experienced something similar, ‘...blithely following directions into the residential streets of some unsuspecting town, along with a slew of other frustrated motorists.’”
- The response provides commentary that explains how some of the evidence relates to the argument, such as “This would complicate everything for the person using the software or app.” However, it does not explain the connections or progression between the claims, so a line of reasoning is not clearly established.
- Instead, the response contains some simplistic explanations that do not strengthen the argument, such as “It is important to also take in mind that by using the GPS one is trying to get to somewhere of interests or somewhere as soon as possible.”

**C. Sophistication (0-1 points): 0**

- The response does not demonstrate sophistication of thought or a complex understanding of the rhetorical situation.

**Sample Identifier: 1E**

**Score: 1-1-0**

**A. Thesis (0-1 points): 1**

- The response offers a defensible position in the first paragraph: “Through reading the documents the most edident arguement is that mapping services do more harm than good and based on the documents alone I would agree.”

**B. Evidence and Commentary (0-4 points): 1**

- The response provides general evidence from five sources that tend to focus on summary rather than specific details; for example: “Doc B views the mapping systems as a positive thing by stimulating voluneter rates.”
- The commentary summarizes the evidence, such as “In doc F the information presented in Vox Media's post shows the liklyhood of acidents and correates with doc C due to the download rates mention in F by showing the uses of maps in comparison to the users of phones in general,” but it does not explain how the evidence supports the argument.

**C. Sophistication (0-1 points): 0**

- The response does not demonstrate sophistication of thought or a complex understanding of the rhetorical situation.

**Sample Identifier: 1F**

**Score: 1-0-0**