

Quiz 2.16

1. Summarize the point that Clay Shirky makes on p. 111. Then explain how Nicholas Carr responds to Shirky. Whose position do you find more convincing? Why?

Shirky believes that the web is there for a reason thus people should use it to their benefit. He states that reading certain books were part of the old traditions and now we have a web that has all the information that we need. We can move along to what is more beneficial rather than staying with the traditional course of reading vague time-consuming books. However, Carr does not believe with Shirky and pushing people towards the web rather than using their mind and exercising it. Once you start depending on the web your mind is no longer attentive and is in a permanent state of distractedness. People are always looking for the fast and reliable source and although the web is able to offer we screw with the way we think and the way we process things because we will eventually come to depend on the web the more we use it as the shift for intellectual achievement changes.