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Final

In the *Shallows How the internet is changing the way we think, read and remember* by Nicholas Carr the main idea throughout the book is how the internet is changing us and the consequences it has on our brain. Overall, Carr goes on to state that although the creation of the internet was meant to change our lives for the better in the end the creation of the internet has created a gateway for the downfall of reading. Rather than actually enjoying a book and taking the time to read many of us no longer read or we read because we have to. Its not like before when people used to gather around and one person would read to a group out loud and people would actually take the time to enjoy the reading. Even after books became more affordable and more people began to read individually reading was very common. Everyone who could would read individually and those who couldn’t would gather in groups in order to have someone read to them. Now that the internet has gained popularity and has become embedded into our daily routine reading is no longer such a popular habit.

Carr uses counter arguments from multiple time periods to ensure that his message is being heard. One of the first examples he gives us is the creation of the printing press. The printing press changed the way that people read and the number of books that were being published. Before the printing press was created a lot of people would gather together and would have someone read to them. In most cases many of these people were illiterate and many couldn’t afford to learn to read. After the printing press came out many people began to read individually and the gathering of books slowing stopped becoming a thing. Although there were still those who gathered to share their thoughts and ideas regarding books. The ability for books to become more available changed the way that people read. Although this is not a bad example as to how a new invention changed the way we learned and read it does go to show that an invention can influence the way we do things. Carr also talks about the creation of the clock and how the monks had created it in order to stay on top of their praying schedule. Although the creation was meant to use in a good way, it became a way to allow others to know the time. This began to change the way people thought and the way that many utilized their time. By the time someone invented the pocket clock many had adapted around this new intentioned and learned to adjust to knowing the time at any given moment. Overall, these examples were to highlight that a new invention is not always a bad thing, but we do have to realize that an inventor does not create things in the hope of creating a bad thing. When

It has become clear that in new age many of us are quite addicted to our phones. If we were to compare the way that people learned before the creation of technology to how many people are learning today, we would see the change. Many used to take in the knowledge and actually learn while today many people just take in what they must for a period of time. It’s all about memorization today and how much you can memorize to be successful. We also tend to skim pages rather than actually read and often we rely on the internet for all the information. We have become so accustomed to having a little device in our pockets that can retain all the information that we no longer learn we just memorize for a given time and then forget after it is no longer useful. We are relying on a device to become our brain that we are using less and less of it and we are simply not seeing the negative effects on it. The book had shown a study that was made regarding multimedia. Overall, the study had shown that multimedia was ineffective and that people really don’t gather as much knowledge as they might think they do. Carr does a great job in giving more than just his side of the internet he also shows the data of multiple studies throughout the book and statements from other people.

It is stated repeatedly that the creating of the internet has made us much more distracted and that we simply have trouble staying focus on one task. Mainly because our devices have the ability to go from app to app and back. When the idea was first introduced from going app to app there were those that were sort of hesitant with it. The idea of being distracted from multiple apps and their notifications seemed quite ludicrous to many. Many didn’t understand why that was a thing and now years later everyone seems to have notifications and multiple apps opened at the same time without even thinking about it twice. Carr does note that the creation of the internet it is able to make our work faster and much, we are able to do so much more than before. He states that when it was first introduced, he was so excited to finally purchase a computer and use it at work. However, he like others slowly begun becoming more and more addicted to the computer and its use. As someone that was first introduced to the creation of the internet, he has so much experience with it and is able to talk about how different things used to be and work.

Overall Carr does use his past, studies on the effect of the internet and data, and other experts, to show that the internet is really changing today’s world. We no longer read and it might not seem so big but the moment we stop reading and learning and rely on a computer is the moment we are slowing changing things to the worse. Our brain is what makes us who we are the neurons will never amount to a tiny device because we are able to have emotions and are able to think. We shouldn’t rely on a device to do that for us because ultimately our brain is the only thing we have that makes us who we are today.