

## **Google, My Hero**

One of the first computers, “Christopher,” was invented in World War II to decode enemy messages in order to save lives. Similar to “Christopher,” which saved about forty-one million lives, Google has the capacity to positively affect the world and improve on the mistakes of humanity. In the article “Is Google Making Us Stupid?” the author, Nicholas Carr, states that while Google does have its usefulness, it is also damaging to the human mind. The fact is that google helps us in the real world just as much as it does in the cyber world.

Carr argues that Google is damaging the depth of knowledge readers acquire in favor of skimming through large amount of information. He writes, “Our ability to interpret text, to make the rich mental connections that form when we read deeply and without distraction, remains largely disengaged.” While Carr argues that we need a deeper understanding of information regarding few topics, in today’s world we need to access large amounts of information because there is more information needed to function properly in daily life. For example, Google helps direct users to sites that aid in transportation, education, and the consumption of goods. Without these services, life would be significantly more difficult and inconvenient.

Nicholas Carr also believes that Google is hindering our ability to focus on long pieces of writing. Carr relates that as his friends and acquaintances use the Web for longer periods of time, “the more they have to fight to stay focused on long pieces of

writing.” What Carr does not know is that through skimming and scanning people who are reading long pieces of writing can finish reading the piece faster, while at the same time collecting the information they need. Essentially, by skimming and scanning you are finishing work that you are required to do faster and that provides the reader more time to focus on pursuits that they like and that is an interest to them. Instant communication of current data regarding how to solve problems in our daily lives has aided our ability to get tasks done more accurately and in a better time frame. The people in this world have many problems that they need information on how to fix, but bookstores sometimes may not have the information or that certain book or piece of information may not be there. In my personal experience using websites linked to Google, like Youtube, have helped me solve a problem in about five minutes that might have taken me nearly two days to fix if I had needed to find the time to go to a library to get a book to find out how to fix it.

Google augments our current way of life in a positive way which Nicholas Carr evidently can not see. Google is a part of today’s world, whether Carr likes it or not, and is a useful tool for everyone that chooses to use it to make their lives more convenient. While Carr is complaining about the advancement and change of technology, people that have grown up in the era of change are used to it. Carr is most likely complaining because he is having a rough time adjusting to the new lifestyle of today’s generation.