

Mr. Carr,

I respectfully disagree with your stance in your article with Google's effect on intelligence.. Your idea that the internet is modifying our brains negatively is a logical one defended with reasonable points and great ideas. However, in this case it may be based on many outside factors. There are too many variables in an average home or workplace to accurately tell what is causing a distraction during a reading session.

As stated in your paper, the internet is transforming our minds and molding them to perform differently. However this is not decreasing the speed of our brains, it is assisting them to perform more streamlined and efficient processes. In the past similar advances occurred with the printing press and typewriter. While online, skimming an article or reading a headline can often determine a great deal of the actual content. The attention issues that are experienced while reading is not that "Google is making us more stupid" but the fact that your brain is expecting information to come quickly.

As stated in the article, the brain is proven to be malleable even as an adult, and does not function in the way many would expect. It is more susceptible to being changed by outside stimuli. While browsing the internet may cause your attention span to shorten, there are many other variables that may affect it. Many theorize that consciousness does not just exist within the space of the skull, but outside and around it and changes in response to forces around you,. The internet merely allows your brain access to infinite knowledge quickly and efficiently.

Now, advanced math concepts and other subjects that used to be given to older kids like high schoolers is now being given to middle schoolers, and sometimes even elementary kids. This unlimited access to complex concepts allows the human mind to progress further at a younger age therefore building our intelligence.

With Google compiling a great deal of relative information, there is no need for extensive searching and it enables us to become better informed. It creates uncomplicated access to information, saving time and effort for the researcher. Secondly, it enables exploration into different topics and provides one central location to discover all forms of knowledge. Learning does not necessarily have to be obtained through intense reading sessions, because a quick and consistent flow of data often results in a successful retaining of information.

In conclusion, we believe Google is not reducing our brain speed, rather it is allowing us to expand our intelligence and access information that otherwise wouldn't have been available. Though our attention span may be slightly reduced due to internet usage, it is a result of trying to complete tasks at a quicker rate. This does not produce negative effects and could result in assisting us.. While it may seem like we are using computers as a medium to the world around us, it is one of the most effective gateways into experiencing different aspects of life.