**Life with Google - Dumber or Different?**

Nicholas Carr suggests that as accessing information becomes quicker and easier, we become less comprehensive. He conjectures that people go online to bypass manually seeking out and learning information the “traditional way” which rewires our brain to digest information differently, thus making us less comprehensive. This rewire, however, can be positive and can be a mechanism to allow for the quicker consumption of information in an age where more information is available through Google and the internet as a whole.

The main purpose of Google is to put as much information as possible at any one user’s fingertips. This ease of access has made learning vast, complex concepts possible to anyone with internet access. Google, and the internet as a whole, has created a system of sharing information that is unthinkably expansive. Every new and past discovery from leading experts is posted to journals, allowing other specialists to give opinions and criticisms. This process creates more concise information that can be applied to life and teach the public concepts while forgoing the seeking out or publishing of a book. Learning new information regarding things as simple as geometry homework, to things as complex as building computers is an effortless endeavor of finding the proper websites on Google. In geometry, I encountered a unit on trigonometry. During this unit I had an inadequate amount of time to grasp the subject in class. As the trigonometry test neared I turned to Google to memorize the concepts within the unit. While I only had ninety minutes of class time, I had unlimited resources and time to process and learn with Google. It allowed me to pass my test and retain the knowledge of trigonometry, in the case that it is needed in the future.

Carr believes that because we are no longer reading from books and are now relying on the internet, our minds are becoming distorted. This engages your mind differently than reading from books or other traditional methods. In his article, Carr states that this alteration negatively impacts our comprehension and retention of information, thus making us less intelligent as a whole. With the internet, humans must process text differently to accommodate for the abundance of information. With up to millions of articles on any one topic only a Google search away, people try to take in as many different opinions as possible. Humans as a whole are not becoming less intelligent, we are simply altering the way we process information to allow easier consumption of the knowledge at our disposal. In his article Carr cited a study showing that people using two encyclopedia cites skimmed, moving quickly through a large number of articles. This allowed people to digest larger quantities of different opinions. All of this information is then compiled into a genuine understanding of the topic. This process uses the unlimited amount of information available more effectively.

Carr argues that as information becomes easier to access and quicker humans lose retention, this however, cannot be the case. As more information becomes available, humans keep up. Carr believes that reading information accessed through the internet rewires the brain to be less comprehensive. As shown through our trigonometry narrative, we learned from Google. Our brain was rewired, but in a comprehensive and retentive way.