There is a great debate about whether Google and the internet are actually making us more stupid; however, many argue that it is actually making us smarter. Technology has definitely changed the way we interact with people, how we interpret information, and how we process textual information. The internet has influenced many different aspects of our life, it has even changed some of our habits and created new past times to some degree, however, this is not necessarily a damaging alteration. Wendell Berry did not believe in the usage of a computer in fear that a computer would disrupt and take over his lifestyle, although this is an extreme view, it is a valid point. One’s life should not revolve aimlessly around searching on the internet and perusing social media. The computer does not have to be a negative influence, nor take over and replace vital components of our life simply because one enjoys researching on the internet. Nicholas Carr, has a similar view of Berry’s, although he is not opposed to the thought of owning a computer, he does feel that the usage of the computer is inundating humans’ mindset. The computer and its assets destroys one’s mentality through the over usage of instant availability of thoughtless information not accurately being processed. One does not actually become “more stupid” because they use the advantages of the “advance search bar” that is offered on Google today.

By using Google and the internet we utilize and elevate our intelligence by rejecting the old styles of thought process and reading, and we initially mature into potent innovators without even realizing it. While Carr mourns the loss of his concentration and past capabilities regarding how he “once was a scuba diver in a sea of words”, but in present time can only “zip along the surface like a human on a jet ski,” he is undermining a contribution to society that is before his eyes. It is clear; zipping along the surface of a narrative is not the ideal or traditional way of writing, however, this is the sign of a new innovation.

Blaming technology for the decline of human intelligence is irresponsible. The use of the advanced search bar on Google in today’s society is no different than using a hard copy of an encyclopedia in the past. Although some may see Google as the scapegoat to humanity becoming less intelligent, lazy, or more inept, this is actually a disservice to society. Blaming technological advancements for humanity becoming less cognitive is actually taking away our accountability of our educational responsibility. It is our obligation to use and transmit crucial information for future generations.

Google is not responsible for the loss of our intelligence. That is the same as blaming our fast food chains for obesity. Google does not take away our metacognition; it is our actions, transmissions, denial, responsibility and our obligation to use this search engine appropriately. When Google is used suitably and responsibly, it leads to the advancements of humanity.