When considering your assumptions on how Google and the Internet in general are affecting our way of gathering and processing information, I personally prefer the speed that Google offers over utilizing print materials, which influences our intelligence. In your article you addressed how we access Google and look for the information we need. You state that there are distractions that show up out of nowhere. (Example: a YouTube video about some stupid cat) With your concerns in mind, our point is that information is delivered more efficiently than print media in both speed and volume. Another concern that came to mind is that we, as humans, can turn the pop-ups off in “settings” and just ignore the ads that fund the site. Humans are actually the ones at fault, not the “all powerful” Google. We choose to allow distractions through this medium, even though there are ways around it. Print materials are static, therefore less distracting. They are not as easy to skim through quickly and find necessary information in a single page. Google gives us ease of access on our time, and at our convenience, not the limited hours of operation of the library.

Information at our fingertips seems to be what the world prefers, and not much that can stop it. Helpful information can be accessed by anyone and can help many, for example the blind searching for audio passages, or students needing quickly compiled information for research. The illusion is, there is no reason to use books at all if using them takes more time to gather information. There are particular reasons books may “shine” through. Books give you a special feeling that technology can try to replicate, but not match. Many people talk about paper’s texture, smell, and the sophistication of displaying classic books. Some people are tactile learners who learn by manipulation, other people are visual learners and are learn by just reading it, but information is information no matter where or how you get it. I think that the Internet helps the underdog, those who learn differently than the norm. They might not be the doctors or the lawyers of the world, but having the Internet gives them a chance.

For the most part, a combination of both books and Internet usage may be the best way to gather information. Intelligence comes from using gathered information. The Internet is growing at a rapid rate, with thing being added every day. Books may be a better way to retain knowledge, but the Internet provides more volume and ease of access. Information comes from many sources including book. I believe that the Internet may be the more efficient source for us, and it may eventually replace books. We need to be ready to navigate the world of information through the most efficient way possible. The Internet may be the greater way to get information, but it is how we use the information from the Internet is what makes us more intelligent.