It is 9th grade and we have 30 minutes to finish our science project. Our team needed a summary with five sources and we are running out of time. Google saved the day providing us with all the information we needed in a short amount of time and our team placed first in the competition. We believe that search engines like Google help expand the knowledge we have through a number of ways. Compared to print media, Google helps make school work more engaging, attracts more people to the pursuit of knowledge, and is not to blame for distractions in the modern world.

In school, we have been given many assignments with out-of-date textbooks, inaccurate information, and formats that do not grab our attention. My science textbook still includes Pluto as a planet and my history book still thinks Bill Clinton is President. It is clear that learning offline with outdated materials will not educate our generation for a 21st century world. Classes that assign homework using the internet make learning easier and more engaging. In our physical science class, online assignments helped prepare us for the lessons much easier and brought students who previously were uninterested into class discussions.

After thirty minutes, students at our school lose their attention to the lesson. With the internet, kids can engage with a screen for three or more hours a day. Using technology and the internet grabs the attention of students young and old and can bring more people into academic pursuits. Carr argues that the internet degrades the quality of our mind. In fact, in our experience in school, google and the internet engages more students into learning.

In his article, Carr notes, “What if I do all my reading on the web not so much because the way I read has changed, i.e. I’m just seeking convenience, but because the way I THINK has changed?” We believe this is a problem of personal responsibility which he incorrectly blames on Google. Google’s is a search engine that directs users to requested sites on the internet. If the information is incorrect it is not Google’s fault. It should be blamed on whatever site you chose to get you information from. Also, we feel that Carr’s argument that Google distracts us from other tasks is flawed. If we read a book, but feel like opening Facebook, the blame is on us and not the computer. It is the temptation that gets us. Before the internet, self-discipline was necessary for success against distractions of friends, family, and life.

Google is a helpful tool that allows students at my school and around the world to access information that we did not know before. Before the internet, school work was less interesting, less understandable, and limited to a certain group of people with knowledge. We believe that Carr incorrectly blames Google and the Internet for problems in the quality of our thinking. Google makes us smarter and our education would not be the same without it.