The Internet: Making Us More Intellectual

There are many controversial issues on the usage of computers, the internet and their impacts on the society. Some people like Nicholas Carr’s argue that the internet changes our mindset and the way we perceive the things around us and he expresses this idea in his article “Is Google Making Us Stupid?”. The idea that technological advancements are destroying our society almost seems like a nightmare. In actuality, new technological innovations make us smarter. The internet can help enrich our knowledge by providing everyone with information about their health, allows us to expand our knowledge through online classes, and is even a great way for us to communicate short or long distances with others, making the internet one of the best ways to gather information.

Google, or any search engine, is a great way to learn about new things or expand on the ideas of old common knowledge. For example, teenagers don’t always want to ask adults private questions because they are embarrassed to do so. The internet is a good way for teenagers to find out about their health and what’s happening to them. In this way teenagers, or anyone in this case, can become enlightened and smarter about their health.

One can obtain knowledge through online classes as well. Instead of learning in a physical classroom, people can also take classes online through the courses offered via the internet. This can be beneficial to us because some people may be diagnosed with something that can prevent them from attending school (ADHD, ADD, etc.). Online, an individual is not restricted to certain classes and can take any course they please (other than the classes that require certain credits). On the other hand, at a public school, there are only selected courses that are possible to take, but the internet offers as many classes in all categories that anyone can take.

The internet can also make humans more intelligent because it is a good way to communicate with people around the world. By communicating we can become smarter. We can become smarter because we learn others custom and learn other’s way. With learning other people’s ways, we can gather more information and overall, become smarter. This can lead to connections and having connections means being able to communicate more and be able to learn more.

In Carr’s article, Google’s future plan includes an AI that “understands exactly what

you mean and gives you back exactly what you want”. This is not constructive because it prevents people from thinking on their own, therefore limiting the expansion of new ideas. However, the reasons behind why we should use the internet include the advancement of communication, the multiple approaches to education, and capacity to learn new things by researching them online. Google may be lacking in some components, but, it isn’t making us “stupid”, we just process the information we received online differently.