

Prompt

The readings for this unit dealt with the role of the Internet and technology in society. Using the three readings, develop an argument in response to the following questions:

- How does the Internet/technology affect our society?
- How does the Internet/technology affect our social interactions with other people?
- Is this helping or hurting our society?

Support your position with evidence from the texts. You will need to employ synthesizing techniques (not a summary of each author's entire article) by organizing your argument around topics and common themes, and identifying connections among the texts. This means that not everything the author writes in his or her article will be relevant to your essay. **Take a position on this issue, and support your choice in position with evidence from the texts.** You will also need to counter-argue the viewpoints that are different than your position. That is, you will need to acknowledge what other people believe and then explain why your position is best.

The best way to accomplish this is to organize your paper by IDEAS rather than sources. To do this, it is important to be able to answer the following questions:

- In what ways do the texts support or agree with one another? Do the texts share similar ideas about this topic?
- Are there places where the texts contradict or disagree with one another?

Readings

- "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" by Nicholas Carr
- "Three Tweets for the Web" by Tyler Cowen
- "Treading Water in a Sea of Data" by Peter Suderman

Audience

You are writing in a semi-academic tone for people who come from educated backgrounds. Imagine you are writing for a well-respected opinion section of a magazine or newspaper. Assume your readers have not read the articles you use for support.

Paper Length and Format

Your essay will be typed in 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced, with one inch margins.
Your essay will be 4-5 pages, not including the Reference page.
Your essay will include a References page in APA format that references the two articles you discuss.
You will give your paper a title and you will STAPLE YOUR PAPER.

DUE DATES:

Rough Draft due Friday, November 22nd
Final Draft due Friday, December 6th