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Essay #3 (Google Prompt)

90 per cent of us have digital amnesia. Some articles keeping this fact in mind are “Is Google making us stupid?” Source A by Nicholas Carr, “The Google Effect: is technology making us stupid?” Source B by Genevieve Roberts, and “Study of Students Online Research Behavior” Source C by Moran and Firth. Google delivers us information in an instant. We don't always realize it, but Google has become our best friends. It is always there for you, but is Google negatively affecting our intelligence? I say yes because it is causing us to be distracted, it replaced our need to memorize and gave us superficial knowledge, and it is always giving us too much information to process.

First of all, Google is negatively affecting our intelligence because it is causing us to be distracted. We sometimes get distracted when we want to do many tasks at the same time. Source A states, “If we're distracted, we understand less, remember less, and learn less. That's the problem with Google- and with the Internet in general. When we use our computers and our cell phones all the time, we're always distracted.” These distractions stop us from learning at our best. We start to rely on objects instead of people to give us information. We need to stop being distracted by all of this technology and start putting actual time and energy into finding the answers to our questions. In Source A it says, “The Net bombards us with messages and other bits of data, and everyone of these interruptions breaks our train

of thought. We end up scatterbrained.” We need to stop being distracted to be able to have a organized brain. With every distraction, you lose a precious fact. We need those facts to grow our brain's thoughts into deeper more complex ones. Google is causing us to be more distracted.

Second of all, Google replaced our need to memorize and gave us superficial knowledge. We are becoming less dependent on memorization. Source C states, “These tools have replaced our need to memorize many details; and without these tools we may be lost.” Memorization is what allows us to remember facts. Without memorization we won't be able to learn much of anything. Source C also explains, “The Internet is filled with incorrect information, which may lead to being misinformed.” We need real, factual information to actually learn anything. Much of the information that is given to us may be false. It might be flawed in its accuracy or just entirely wrong. Google replaced our need to memorize and gave a superficial knowledge.

Third of all, Google is negatively affecting in our intelligence because it is always giving us too much information to process. Too much information can be horrid because it makes our brains work overtime and get confused. Source B says, “He believes the combination of the Google Effect and the constant distraction of smart phones, constantly delivering information, is concerning.” It is concerning because too much information can leave you bombarded. It can cause you to have a meltdown because you can't remember everything you see on the screen. Source be also states, “Constantly looking up information online is not an effective way to create permanent memories. The best way to make information stick is to sometimes sit back, and mentally

refresh what you learn or experienced a minute, an hour for a day ago.” You need to be able to dwell on the information you received to understand it. With too much information and you can't really relax and mentally recap what you just learned. You need time and patience, as well as an appropriate amount of information. Others do not agree with me. They say that Google is not negatively affecting our intelligence because it “helps us live smarter” and it gives us easy access to answers. Source B explains, “She says technology “helps us live smarter” as were able to access answers.” Even though Google gives us easy access to answers and “helps us live smarter”, Google is always giving us too much information to process, which is negatively affecting us.

In conclusion, Google is negatively affecting us. This topic is significant because Google is in almost everyone's life. We use it every day, almost 24 seven. We should know the negative effects it has on our intelligence to be able to decide if we should still always use it for everything. Google is negatively affecting our intelligence because it is causing us to be distracted, it replaced our need to memorize and gave us superficial knowledge, and it is always giving us too much information to process.