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EBA #3 Final Draft- "Is Google negatively affecting our intelligence?"

No matter the age group there will always be groups of people who fear the advancements of technology and worry for the next generations just as Socrates had once done. Many fear that as time goes on generations will end up relying more and more on search engines such as Google. The fear isn't solely on the amount of search engines that exist or will exist but on whether people will actually be able to function without these search engines. Articles and infographics such as "Is Google Making Us Stupid", "Google Effect: Is Technology Making Us Stupid?", and "A Study of Students Online Research Behavior" further go into this controversy. The advancements and growth of search engines such as Google aren't affecting us negatively but actually affecting us positively by helping improve our memories, giving us more resources, and overall benefitting consumers.

First of all a common assumption about search engines is that they leave consumers scatter brained and with a lack of memory but really they are helping us further intake information. Articles such as Source A claim that with "constant interruptions" (ads, messages, data, etc;) our thinking is stopped and while this can be distracting it helps us develop a very helpful skill, multi-tasking. Constant change between one thing to another can be quite handy not just online but in reality as well, in fact it can help an individual keep a focused state of mind while completing multiple tasks. The writers in Source A also state something important and that's the fact that "81 percent of experts polled by the Pew Internet Research Project say the

opportunities outweigh the distractions”! While distractions are possible the percentage is low and this source of evidence further proves that even if there is some sort of interruption it’s key to developing skills. Overall search engines aren’t leaving people with dysfunctional brains or memories but further giving them strength and resources.

Second of all, another strength open to people is the amount of resources provided to us by these search engines. As the article Source A states “Google has made us smarter both individually and collectively because we have ready and free access to information”. This “ready and free” information is incredibly helpful in all sorts of ways such as a main use providing reading material. “The internet contains the world's best writing, images, and ideas;” this statement in Source A further builds on my point of resources. These resources help and benefit the consumer in many educational ways whether it’s researching current world wide events, spell-checking an assignment, or making sure to have the proper format when contacting a teacher/colleague. Google offers us answers and ways to build knowledge off of events. In fact, these sources used in this essay may even be found on search engines like Google informing readers or giving readers motivation to interact with one another about this very topic. If anything search engines like Google further provide an amount of resources and benefits the consumer rather than harm them.

Overall Google doesn’t lower our intelligence but rather help us expand our skills and ways of thinking. Google positively affects us by improving our concentration/memory, providing resources, and benefitting the consumer in multiple ways.