

Imagine living in the 1960s where in the field of technology all we have are landlines. We have a homework assignment but all we have are five books from our local library that are barely considered close to the topic. This would be a world without Google. It's Google negatively affecting our intelligence? In the articles, "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" by Peter Norving and Nicholas Carr, "Google Effect" by Genevieve Roberts, and "A Student's Online Research Behavior" by Moran and Firth, they all state reasons why Google is not enhancing our stupidity because it actually helps us live smarter, opportunities outweigh distractions, and we have a wide selection through Google.

First of all, Google actually helps of live smarter. In other articles, authors try to show how technology makes us dumber by giving us the answers. Wrong! In "Google Effect" it proclaims, "Anthropologist Dr. Genevieve Bell, a vice-president at Intel believes not. She says technology "helps is live smarter" as we're able to access answers." Dr. Bell is trying to say that us having the answer one click away is actually making our intelligence grow. Looking through numerous pages in a baby book of how to parent can be tiresome and it is quicker to just type it in a search engine. Another example in "Google Effect" states, "These are all questions that technology may be able to address quicker than calling your own parents...This isn't making consumers more dumb, instead it's helping them to think smarter. The author is interpreting that Google is helping consumers think more intellectual in real-life, problematic situations. Google is a search engine with many sources and options, meanwhile, our parents, encyclopedias, etc. aren't. Is this really making us dumber?"

Secondly, opportunities outweigh distractions. Every article with a biased opinion thinking Google makes a stupid states our intellectual capability is decreasing because of

distractions. For example, in, “Is Google Making Us Stupid?” it states, “If we're distracted, we understand less, remember less, and learn less.” Yet another overused and inaccurate idea by an article. Many articles say Google makes us stupid because it is a distraction. Is this even true? In “Is Google Making Us Stupid?” it states, “There's no doubt the internet can create distractions. But 81 percent of experts polled by the Pew Internet Research Project say the opportunities outweigh the distractions.” The author is trying to say that while the internet can create distractions, it cannot outrun opportunities. When we look for a job, dance class, etc. where do we look? The internet, because it is filled with opportunities.

Last but not least, we have a wide selection through Google. Before Google, all we had where our local libraries, which had a slim variety of sources. For example, in “A Study Of Students Online Research Behavior” it states, “Without internet access, if we wanted to know about something, we had limited source options to research it, like the available books in the nearby library.” What the author is trying to say is that the generation before Google was not more intelligent than us, they just had to work a little harder to get answers. We are not stupid because Google provides us with millions of answers. In “Is Google Making Us Stupid?” It proclaims, “My local library has no books on that specific subject - just 18 books on the Apollo missions in general. I could hunt through those, or turn to Google, which returns 45,000 pages, including a definitive encyclopedia article and instructions for building a unit.” The author is trying to say that searching for a book on a research topic can be fatiguing. Many people say Google doesn't have credible sources and it makes us stupid, but if you find the right articles, because you have a wide variety, many are trustworthy.

In conclusion, the search engine, Google, is not decreasing our mental capability, but enhancing it. Google is not making the stupid because it actually helps us live smarter, opportunities outweigh distractions, and we have a wide selection of sources. Some people have different perspectives as they might say that we get distracted with Google, but as the article said, “opportunities outweigh the distractions”. Google is a search engine people use all the time and it is important. We rely on Google with a hard question or a review on a new restaurant we want to go to, etc. What I'm saying is, Google now plays an important role in our lives, it does not make us dumb, but it makes our lives easier.