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Rhetorical Analysis Essay

Television vs. Google which is better?

Is google making us stupid or is TV making us smarter is what both Nicholas Carr and Steven Johnson are asking us readers to think about. In the articles “Is google making us stupid” by Nicholas Carr and “Watching TV makes you smarter” by Steven Johnson both authors talk about the advantages and the disadvantages of technology. For many years expert have proved that TV is very harmful to our brain because it does not teach us social or motor skills and we are not learning new words but losing what we already know. So you can only imagine what I was thinking when Johnson said that TV can be very good for us when it is teaching us how pay more attention, make inferences, track shifting social relationships. While in Carr’s article, is google making us stupid, he talks about as a writer the web is very helpful because he does not have it seat and look in books for days to find answer because the internet will give it to him in seconds. The down side to having the internet give you answer in seconds is that your mind becomes so accustomed to getting answers in seconds that it becomes hard for your mind to stay focus on something. Over a few decades technology has advanced tremendously both in good ways and in bad ways. Technology is making it easier for us to learn, find and obtain the answers and cures too many things that would have been hard for to obtain and would have taken us ages to find in books and encyclopedias. Technology is also making us stupid, because we always believe what the internet says and we never challenge it. While both authors state good arguments, I feel like we don’t spend enough time in libraries or sitting around to find resources

in books because we have the internet and television shows don't have the sleeper curve that allows our brains to grow.

In Steven Johnson article he talks about why TV is good for your mind. In his article he talks about the Sleeper Curve, the sleeper curve is when a Television show makes you pay attention to what going on in the story, makes inferences with other things and keeps you focus so that you can keep track of different changes in the characters. He says that the sleeper curve is something crucial that TV shows need to have because it "is the single most important new force altering the mental development of young people today, and I believe it is largely a force for good: enhancing our cognitive faculties, not dumbing them down" (Johnson pg. 2). In this quote Johnson is saying that the sleeper curve is really good because it is helping young people mind develop to think more critically and not a bad thing like that expert think. While the show that he mentioned in his article have the sleeper curve many other shows don't which makes watching TV bad for us because it is not helping our brain develop more.

In Nicholas Carr's Article Is google making us stupid, he talks about how the internet helps him to a certain extent but in many ways I is harming him because it is becoming harder for him to stay focus on something for long. In the article Carr mentions that "Reading, explains Wolf, is not an instinctive skill for human beings. It's not etched into our genes the way speech is. We have to teach our minds how to translate the symbolic characters we see into the language we understand" (Carr pg. 2). Reading is not something our mind is programmed to do because we have to teach ourselves how to read. The internet has become an easy tool that allows us to be lazy. We don't have to go far to find answers and we don't have to wait long to get our question answered. Carr also said that even when he is not researching for his writing the internet is there and he finds himself wondering on the internet. What he is trying to say is that

he spend so much time on the internet that he can spend too much time of books because his mind has become accustomed to the speed of the internet.

While both Carr and Johnson make really good arguments in their article many people may think that they are wrong because many people think that google is good and TV is bad for us. Televisions for many people is a source of entertainment where people get together and bond on many things but they are not gaining anything from watching TV. For many years experts have proven that television is not good for our brain because most TV shows lack the sleeper curves. In order for TV shows to be good for us and our brain, they all need to have the sleeper curve. The sleeper curve is something crucial that TV shows need to have in order to help us. Google and the internet in many ways is good because it gives us the chance to get answers to things in seconds. Before google or the internet was invented we would have to go to a library where we would sit for hours, maybe days to find the answer to things and on rare occasion we would not even find the answer. Google is making life easier for us and giving us more time to enjoy our lives.

After listing both authors' arguments I believe that google is making us stupid because it is not allowing us to think on our own and not challenging our thinking, and TV Shows with the sleeper curve is really good for us. Shows with the sleeper curves makes us pay more attention to thing on the show, make inferences to things outside the world, track shifting social relationships with the characters. We need to rely less on technology and more on what is on our mind.