Persuasive Arguments

Is Technology Making Us Stupid (and Smarter)?

Read the articles and then create two main arguments. One for technology use and one against technology use. These are does/does not arguments. You may copy and paste arguments directly from the articles. This is your research and you are learning about the issue

Main argument A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Main argument B \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ does not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Find two supporting arguments for Main Argument A

Main argument A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Supporting argument A1

Supporting argument A2

Find two supporting arguments for Main Argument B

Main argument B \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ does not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Supporting argument B1

Supporting argument B2

YOU WILL HAVE TO READ THE ARTICLES ALL THE WAY THROUGH IN ORDER TO SUCCESSFULLY DO THIS ASSIGNMENT. IN FACT YOU MAY HAVE TO READ, READ AGAIN, READ AND REREAD. This is analysis and that is what it takes to be successful at analyzing written material.

Feature: Is It Just Us, Or Are Kids Getting Really Stupid?  
<http://www.phillymag.com/articles/feature-is-it-just-us-or-are-kids-getting-really-stupid/?all=1>

Bring the subject up in any group of parents around Philadelphia, and you’ll hear the same thing: Children today seem, well, *dumber* than they used to. They don’t know the most basic stuff: who fought against whom in World War II, how many pints are in a quart, and in Jake’s case, the days of the week. (He’s shaky on the months, too.) They may be taking every AP and Honors course their schools offer, but they can’t tell you who invented pasteurization. (They do know who invented Facebook, because they saw the movie *The Social Network*.) They spend an average of eight and a half hours a day in front of screens — computer screens, TV screens, iPhone screens. Add in eight hours of sleep and seven of school, and that leaves half an hour when their senses aren’t under siege — just enough time for a shower.

Is Technology Making Us Stupid (and Smarter)?

<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/mr-personality/201305/is-technology-making-us-stupid-and-smarter>

Life has become more complex but we hardly ever notice it because technology has made complexity simpler than ever. Psychologists explain this dichotomy in terms of two distinct aspects of human intellect, namely fluid and crystallized [intelligence](http://www.psychologytoday.com/basics/intelligence) (after Raymond Cattell's 1940s model of IQ). Fluid intelligence refers to the ability to acquire and process information. In computers, this would be the processing speed and RAM capacity — the more you have, the faster and more effortlessly you can multi-task, and the higher the quantity and complexity of stuff you can handle. If you have ever visited Japan, then think of the Tokyo subway (there's just a lot going on, but to daily commuters that is just standard level of data to process). Evidence suggests that — in humans — fluid intelligence has been increasing for decades (what psychologists refer to as the Flynn effect). The average child from 1950 would be handicapped by today's standard IQ tests, and the average child today would be gifted by 1950s standards... but that JUST in terms of their fluid intelligence or ability to process complex information quickly and effectively...

Bottom of Form

The second aspect of intellect — crystallized IQ — refers not to our ability to gather info but what we actually know; in simple terms, crystallized intelligence means knowledge. Unsurprisingly, with all the knowledge of the world being now outsourced, crowdsourced, and cloudsourced, the individual storage of information is minimal (at least in comparison). Humans today are like most smartphones and tablets - their ability to solve problems depends not on the knowledge they can store but on their capacity to connect to a place where they can retrieve the answer to find a solution. This is what some have labelled the "hyper-link" economy... the only knowledge we need to have is the knowledge of where to find stuff. Notice that the traditional meaning of crystallized IQ referred to knowledge stored "inside our head" (this probably peaked with Leonardo, Voltaire and the encyclopaedists). Luckily, we have not yet seen research evidence that we are becoming more stupid from a crystallised IQ perspective... but one wonders whether we really need to see the research evidence.

**Should We Take the Time to Unplug From Technology?**

<http://www.socialmediatoday.com/content/should-we-take-time-unplug-technology>

Technology has changed our working practices and now allows us to be connected 24/7. We have the power to Skype clients around the world and email or Tweet work colleagues at weekends, but is there a danger that having connectivity so readily available hinders our efforts to gain a better work/life balance?

**Now you must add evidence to your arguments. Using the articles provided add evidence from the article to support each of your arguments.**

Find two supporting arguments for Main Argument A

Main argument A: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Supporting argument A1

Evidence

Evidence

Evidence

Supporting argument A2

Evidence

Evidence

Evidence

Find two supporting arguments for Main Argument B

Main argument B: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ does not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Supporting argument B1

Evidence

Evidence

Evidence

Supporting argument B2

Evidence

Evidence

Evidence

Finish your Persuasive Arguments as shown in the instructions. Now look up some other articles that you haven’t read. You are adding Supporting Arguments A3 and B3 to your document. This should be your opinion. Your evidence should come from your own experiences and/or the new articles you’ve read.

* **Main argument A:**
  + Supporting argument A1
    - Evidence for supporting argument A1:
    - Evidence for supporting argument A1:
    - Evidence for supporting argument A1:
  + Supporting argument A2
    - Evidence for supporting argument A2:
    - Evidence for supporting argument A2:
    - Evidence for supporting argument A3:
  + Supporting argument A3 – Should be your opinion backed up by evidence from life or from new articles.
    - Evidence for Supporting argument A3
    - Evidence for Supporting argument A3
    - Evidence for Supporting argument A3
  + Counter arguments A4 (Yah But!):
  + Counter argument A5 (Yah But!):
* **Main argument B:**
  + Supporting argument B1
    - Evidence for Supporting argument B1:
    - Evidence for Supporting argument B1:
    - Evidence for supporting argument B1:
  + Supporting argument B2
    - Evidence for Supporting argument B2:
    - Evidence for Supporting argument B2:
    - Evidence for supporting argument B1:
  + Supporting argument B3 – Should be your opinion backed up by evidence from life or from new articles.
    - Evidence for Supporting argument B3
    - Evidence for Supporting argument B3
    - Evidence for supporting argument B1:
  + Counter arguments B4 (Yah But!):
  + Counter argument B5 (Yah But!):