

Technology has become a lifeline in our world right now as we are living in a highly connected era. It has been shown to cause damage to our daily lives and us as humans. The way we connect and learn has been harmed with the constant improvements and how we rely on technology and the internet. Sherry Turkle, the author of *The Empathy Diaries* and a world-renowned researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, discusses that our addiction to screens ruins our ability to connect to other humans. She thinks technology is replacing our conversation with something that detaches us from reality. Nicholas Carr argues similar ideas in "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" He looks at tools like Google, causing us to not have the ability to focus, think for ourselves, and fully engage in ideas. Carr takes an interesting look at the brain and how it is being reprogrammed due to having the internet at the access of our fingertips. Carr and Turkle together show their research and how technology has increasingly moved more to the center of our lives. We are now at risk of losing not only our emotional intelligence but also our connections and human interactions. Personally, I look at the pros and cons of technology. It has made my life and education easier and more efficient. However, I lack the intimacy of human interaction and the ability to think deeply on my own. Through reading these articles, it is something we need to be aware of to let our brains grow and develop human connection before it becomes too late.

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In our world that is now being dominated by technology and the internet, Nick Carr and Sherry Turkle both discuss the ways that technology is changing our habits and potential as humans. Carr talks about how he is losing his love and talent for deep reading and thinking by the constant distractions of the digital age. "Now my concentration starts to wander after two or three pages. I get fidgety, lose the thread, and begin looking for something else to do. I feel as if I'm always dragging my wayward brain back to the text. The deep reading that used to come naturally has become a struggle." His experience is relatable to most of us and highlights how the internet is consistently rewiring our brains to look for quick access to information. This is making our long-term focus feel increasingly out of reach. I relate to Carr's words when it comes to struggling against the same restless distraction while trying to concentrate on school work or even daily tasks. When I am reading a book, writing for a class, or even just simply thinking, my mind starts to feel scattered. I am being constantly pulled away from reality. Whether it is by notifications on my phone or laptop, social media, or the efficiency of information through the internet, I am always distracted. What I once did when I was younger felt so easy, whether it was getting lost in a good book or enjoying what I was learning. Now I feel like I have to put my full effort into these tasks that are supposed to be enjoyable. Through his text, it is a frustrating realization, knowing that what is meant to enhance our lives can also damage us and how we interact meaningfully with the world around us.

Commented [FS2]: Strong, complex thesis, I also like how you characterize Turkle and Carr being in agreement early on

Commented [FS3]: Once you introduce their full names once, you should consistently only refer to them by their last names

Commented [FS4]: Smoother transition into the direct quote from Carr

Commented [FS5]: Forgot to cite the quote properly

Commented [FS6]: Add more explanation to Carr's quote before going in to your perspective on it

Turkle also reflects on what technology does to the way we interact through conversation: "I hear a desire for distraction, comfort, and efficiency. But I also know that these moves won't allow conversation to do the work it can do." Turkle points out how our use of computer communication damages and makes us lose interest in real human connection. The more we use technology for convenience and fast answers, the less patience we have for the real world and human connection. I relate to Turkle's point in my own life, mostly when I have thought back to the way I interact. Many times I would rather send a quick text instead of a meaningful call or scroll mindlessly through my phone while my roommate or a friend is trying to talk to me. The

Commented [FS7]: Your input on this subject is very insightful, but I would save most of this for after you integrate and explain Turkle's perspective on this topic, in order to more closely follow the Barclay's paragraph formula

charm of convenience is often easier than the effort of real connection and putting yourselves in other shoes. These shortcuts I have taken leave me feeling more distant and have fewer connections with friends. It makes me feel like I've missed out on the possibility of greater connection or insight. Real conversations, the ones that require presence, openness, and empathy, sometimes feel like they are long gone. Even if it is not me who is distracted in a conversation, it feels like there is always someone else who is. My generation is slowly losing the intimacy we crave from the access to technology at our fingertips. Carr and Turkle share similar views and are worried about the same outcome; however, Carr is focused on the cognitive effect and Turkle on the social and emotional loss. They both deeply show a concern whether it's Google making us stupid or the loss of genuine connection.

Commented [FS8]: This is a good start to connecting Carr and Turkle, but you can go further with this. I would also try and add more of your input at the end to really tie up this idea nicely

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Commented [FS9]: Local concerns:
Make sure you're introducing the sources you're using properly; stating their credentials, the works that you're quoting from, and a general summary of where they stand
Remember to cite your quotes in-text properly
Not required, but it might be easier to organize your thoughts more like a Barclay's paragraph if you combine these two paragraphs in to one
Global Concerns:
Your thesis is strong, complex, and does a good job of answering the prompt
You have a good start to placing Carr and Turkle in conversation, but you should go deeper and place a larger chunk of your analysis on that instead of your personal perspective
Your paragraph(s) needs a stronger ending that ties back to the big ideas that you are trying to convey
Make sure to add your more complex perspective to these quotes and put in a sort of counterargument
The ideas you are discussing from Carr and Turkle are very present throughout their works. Perhaps you could work in some smaller snippets of quotes to further demonstrate their viewpoints and guide your analysis
I like the generational perspective that you added when talking about Turkle, and that is something that could be added to your thesis
In your thesis you have this idea of making us aware of the impact of technology before it is "too late" and then don't reference it in your body paragraphs.
Expand on this idea more in your analysis to elevate the ideas you are discussing