



LITERACY LAB

WILD, WILD WEB

OVERVIEW

Does our reliance on web searching affect how we think? If so, how? In this assignment, you will reflect on how the Wild, Wild Web affects how you think about the world. After reading the article for this week "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" by Nicholas Carr, you will write a short reflection essay and post it in the discussion board. Then you will read your classmates essays and respond to at least one other classmate.

DUE DATE

Your first post is due by Friday 10/5 before 11:55 PM. Your response to a classmate's post is due 10/8/12 before 11:55 PM.

LAB DIRECTIONS

Step by step directions for completing the assignment.

1. Read "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" by Nicholas Carr:
<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2008/07/is-google-making-us-stupid/306868/>
2. Write an essay reflecting on the article. (At least 500 words).
Here are potential questions you may want to explore:
 - What is Carr's thesis? Do you agree or disagree?
 - *How* did you read this article?(Online, in print, on your tablet, on your phone) What do you think about the reference to media theorist Marshall McLuhan's statement, "media are not just passive channels of information" ?
 - How does the technology we use to write shape the language we use?
 - Who is Carr talking about (and who is his audience)?
 - What do we have to ask ourselves to evaluate his argument?
 - What's his evidence that these changes are taking place?
 - What are the consequences of these changes?
 - Is Carr "just a worrywart"?

3. Post your completed essay to the Discussion Board on our course website.
4. Read your classmates' posts and offer a critically thought out response.

GRADING RUBRIC

Percent of grade= 4%

Total possible points = 4 points

Criteria	Points
Shows well-formed arguments in response to the assigned reading.	1.5
Explanation of how article topic applies to your personal experience.	0.5
Correct grammar and punctuation.	0.5
Follows all formatting guidelines and submission requirements.	0.5
Responds to a classmate's post.	1.0
TOTAL	4.0