

Reading and Writing Assignment 7: Summary and Response Letter

Write a letter to Carr in response to his argument and the claims he uses to support his argument, explaining why, based on your own experiences of using Google and other Web technologies in your writing and research processes, you agree or disagree with his argument and the claims he uses to support his argument. In your essay, make sure to cite and comment on specific claims and textual evidence from Carr's essay.

OR

Write a letter to LeGuin in response to her argument and the claims she uses to support her argument, explaining why, based on your own experiences of reading online and on your phone and/or on an e-reader, you agree or disagree with her argument and the claims she uses to support her argument. In your essay, make sure to cite and comment on specific claims and textual evidence from LeGuin's essay.

OR

Write a letter to Brandt in response to her argument and the claims she uses to support her argument, explaining why, based on your own experiences with writing, you agree or disagree with her argument and the claims she uses to support his argument. In your essay, make sure to cite and comment on specific claims and textual evidence from Brandt's essay.

Paper Length: Five Paragraphs

This assignment has been designed to help you gain experience in summarizing and responding to an essay.

Learning Goals:

- learn to write a clear summary of a college-level essay;
- learn to construct a logical argument supported by textual evidence
- learn to note similarities and differences between class readings and your own personal experiences;
- learn to center each paragraph around a specific subject;
- learn to start each paragraph with a topic sentence;
- learn to use transition statements to move the reader from topic to topic;
- learn to quote from and respond to our assigned readings

Some tips on how to get started:

- Begin working on the essay as early as possible
- Read the essay more than once with the assignment in mind.
- Mark passages that seem especially important or difficult to you.
- Use lists and rough outlines to organize your ideas.
- If you have trouble getting started, read the essay again and try to freewrite for a short amount of time.

This assignment can be hand-written or typed.

It is DUE _____ at the beginning of our class session.

Some additional tips:

Please write the letter as a letter. You will begin with “Dear Mr. Carr.” In your first paragraph you will write, “I recently read your essay entitled ‘Is Google Making Us Stupid?’ and I was (describe your reaction to it). In your essay, you (explain what he argues in the essay) and I (explain what questions you have about the essay and why you do or do not agree with his argument). I (agree/disagree) with your proposition that Google may 'be making us stupid' because (Reason 1), (Reason 2), and (Reason 3).”

Remember: you are writing a draft. However, because this is an argumentative response essay, it is important to have a thesis statement and topic sentences drafted before you begin writing the draft.



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