Discussion of Survey Results Related to Technology in Society

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Introduction and Methods

This report discusses survey results relating to technology usage in our daily lives. To investigate this more thoroughly, an online survey containing 12 questions was administered to 10 people on March 10th, 2023 (see Appendix "A"). This survey was initiated after learning that a year before the pandemic, roughly one in four Canadians had no interactions or few with the internet and digital technologies, according to Statistics Canada (2022). Therefore, it would be enlightening[1] to determine if humanity can coexist[2] with technology.

Results

The first noticeable result of the survey was that technology takes a considerable part in the interviewees lives. In fact, 60% of the respondents chose the answer five on the question regarding the impact of computers on their daily lives on a scale from one to five (with "1" meaning "not at all" and "5" meaning "very much,"). Furthermore, regarding the use of computers daily, 40% of the respondents chose four, and 40% chose five on a scale from one to five. This resonates with Exploding Topics (2023) who specifies that "globally, people average 6 hours 58 minutes of screen time per day".

Additionally, all the participants indicated that technology provided benefits such as finding information and contacting people. However, 40% of the respondents answered that

technology distracted them in class, while 30% were hesitant[3]. In addition, 90% of the interviewees agreed that computers affect your eyes. Therefore, computers can be a nuisance[4] as well as a blessing[5] as stated by one of the participants: "I believe that computers are helpful to society because without them, we wouldn't be as advanced as we are in a lot of fields. However, I do think that they can occasionally become harmful when they're used in a bad way, like hacking."

Discussion

Moreover, all the participants agreed to the fact that computers affect the way they use their time. With this extra information, it is possible to synthesize[6] all the information obtained into a single result: there must be a balance between the usage of computers and thinking for ourselves. To obtain this balance, humanity must learn to coexist with technology and not become dependent. However, these answers might not be 100% factual[7] as there are problems with the survey, such as a limited[8] number of people being interviewed. This does not provide a representative[9] sample. There are also confusions regarding the highest education completed in which the interviewees could have chosen more than one answer, however, only seven out of ten people say they have completed primary and eight out of ten say they have completed secondary. Additionally, there was only one respondent over 18, according to Renstrom (2020) the older the person, the less likely she is to embrace the internet, social media, or smartphones. So, the fact that there was only one participant between the ages of 31 and 50 brought unbalance[10] to the responses. Perhaps another study should be conducted[11] in the future in which the interviewees are more diversified[12].

Conclusion

Overall, technology will never disappear, so humanity will have to find ways to exist side-by-side as it can bring drawbacks[13] like eye discomfort as well as benefits such as finding information easier, communicating with others with ease which boosts[14] our productivity.

539 words

References

Howarth, J. (2023, December 4). *Alarming average screen time statistics (2024)*. Exploding

Topics. https://explodingtopics.com/blog/screen-time-stats

Renstrom, J. (2020, July 13). *Why older people really eschew technology*. Slate Magazine.

https://slate.com/technology/2020/07/seniors-technology-illiteracy-misconception-pande

mic.html

Wavrock, D., Schellenberg, G., & Schimmele, C. (2022, April 28). *Canadians' use of the*

Internet and digital technologies before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Statistics

Canada. https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/36-28-0001/2022004/article/

00004-eng.htm

Definition of concepts

1. Enlightening: providing or tending to provide knowledge, understanding, or insight
2. Coexist: to exist together or at the same time
3. Hesitant: tentative or ensure
4. Nuisance: one that is annoying, unpleasant, or obnoxious
5. Blessing: a thing conducive to happiness or welfare
6. Synthesize: the process of pulling together background knowledge, newly learned ideas, connections, inferences and summaries into a complete and original understanding of the text
7. Factual: concerned with what is actually the case rather than interpretations of or reactions to it
8. Limited: restricted in size, amount, or extent; few, small, or short
9. Representative sample: a subset of a population that seeks to accurately reflect the characteristics of the larger group
10. Unbalance: to make something unfair or not equal
11. Conducted: to direct or take part in the operation or management of
12. Diversified: distinguished by various forms or by a variety of objects
13. Drawbacks: a feature that renders something less acceptable; a disadvantage or problem
14. Boosts: help or encourage (something) to increase or improve

Overview: what follows are survey questions that were administered to participants using Google forms and distributed using Instagram to CEGEP students in the surveyor's friend list.

Thank you for completing this anonymous survey. It is being used as part of a college research project to determine if humanity can coexist with technology. Your answers will remain anonymous. Thank you in advance for your participation. Please answer the questions, below.

I. Demographic Information

Gender
10 responses

1. Gender :
   ☒ Man
   ☐ Woman
   ☐ Transgender
   ☐ Prefer not to respond
   ☐ Other :

Age
10 responses
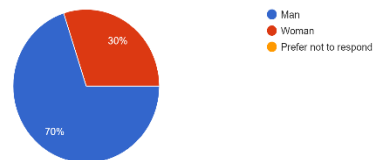
2. Age : (select one)
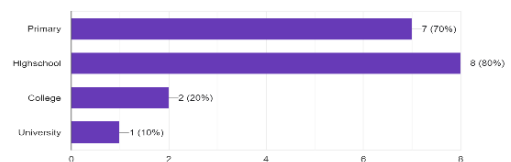   ☐ 10-18
   ☐ 19-30
   ☐ 31-50
   ☐ 51-69
   ☐ 70 or older
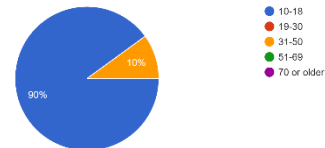
3. What is the highest level of education you have completed? (you may select more than one) :
   ☐ Primary
   ☐ Highschool
   ☐ College
   ☐ University

What is the highest level of education you have completed? (you may select more than one)
10 responses

4. What is your current occupation? (you may select more than one) :
   ☐ Employment part-time
   ☐ Employment full-time
   ☐ Self employment
   ☐ Unemployed
   ☐ Retired
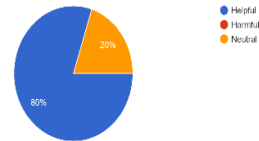   ☐ Student

☐ Other :

II.　Personal Belief

5. Do you believe that computers are harmful or helpful to society? (select one) :
   ☐ Helpful
   ☐ Harmful
   ☐ All the above
   ☐ Neither

Do you believe that computers are harmful or helpful to society? (select one)
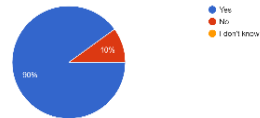10 responses

6. Explain your choice for question #5.

_____

_____

_____

III.　Common Problems with Computers

7. Does the prolong use of computers affect your eyes? (select one) :
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   ☐ I don't know

Does the prolong use of computers affect your eyes? (select one)
10 responses

8. Did the use of computers in your classroom often lead to you being distracted? (select one) :
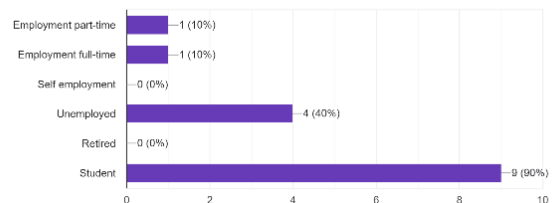   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   ☐ I don't know

Did the use of computers in your classroom often lead to you being distracted? (select one)
10 responses

What is your current occupation? (you may select more than one)
10 responses
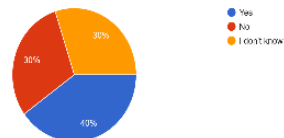
9. Does the use of computers affect the way you use our time? (select one) :
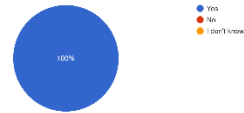   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   ☐ I don't know

IV. Advantages of Computers

10. Is it easier for you to find information using your computer? (select one) :
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   ☐ I don't know

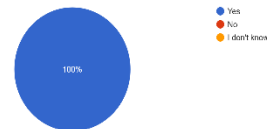Is it easier for you to find information using your computer? (select one)
10 responses

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

100%

11. Is it easier for you to communicate with others with certain technology? (select one) :
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   ☐ I don't know

Is it easier for you to communicate with others with certain technology? (select one)
10 responses

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

100%

V. Impact on Your Life

12. On a scale from 1 to 5 where "1" represents *not at all*, and "5" represents *very much*, how would you rate the impact of computers on your daily life? (select one) :

On a scale from 1 to 5 where "1" represents not at all, and "5" represents very much, how would you rate the impact of computers on your daily life? (select one)
10 responses

1	2	3	4	5
0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (20%)	2 (20%)	6 (60%)

☐   ☐   ☐   ☐   ☐
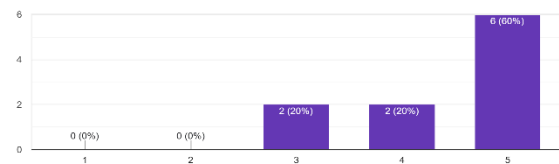
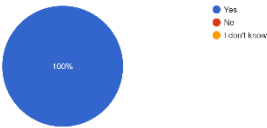1) Not at all   2) Only a Little   3) To Some Extent   4) Rather Much   5) Very Much

13. On a scale from 1 to 5 where "1" represents *not at all*, and "5" represents *very much*, how much do you use your computer daily? (select one) :

Does the use of computers affect the way you use our time? (select one)
10 responses

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

100%

☐   ☐   ☐   ☐   ☐

1) Not at all   2) Only a Little   3) To Some Extent   4) Rather Much   5) Very Much

On a scale from 1 to 5 where "1" represents not at all, and "5" represents very much, how much do you use your computer daily? (select one)
10 responses