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Cognitive Overload- This pitfall can occur in individuals that are unfamiliar with all of the information on the Internet. Especially younger or older users can be overwhelmed.   When doing research on a topic so many links exist individuals will not know the links to access. Moreover many pages are not organized effectively. Therefore students find themselves lost on the page becoming distracted. An example of a good layout is a newspaper. Definite pictures and heading exist in order to guide the Reader and frame up the information. Although this has improved online still busy layouts with distracting popups and advertisements exist. A true challenge in learning today is having students focus their minds on one task. Many students can multitask however they get overloaded and cannot learn effectively. Another contributing factor in overload is links that lead to incorrect information. Many times users become discouraged and no longer want to continue working.

Skimming- another problem encountered by all users of the Internet.   With so much information available students swiftly read from source to source. In many cases they simply skim pages looking for important information. A negative result of this is students do not deeply digest the information presented. Therefore they are not learning as in depth because they are swiftly processing the information. Instead of having to write down the information and rethink its meaning and point. Now Students simply can copy and paste off a website with little thought or evaluation. Due to these capabilities a pivotal part of the educational process has been removed due to Technological advancements.

A contributing cause of this problem is the way information is accessed on the web. In order to read students must scroll and slide across the page. This forces students into moving the

screen quickly and encourages a shortened attention span. In contrast if a student is reading a

book they steadily read turning from page to page in an organized fashion.   Moreover printed

books force students into writing the information down they desires to utilize.

       Distraction- A third problem with reading online is distraction. This pitfall is especially

prominent in college students. Many times when students are working on an activity they open

multiple tabs. This can include social networking sites such as face book or my space.

Therefore many times a students may become bored due to ineffective search techniques and

decide to click over into a social network and browse.   In the PBS videos made available in this

course a college English professor complained about students writing not flowing into well-

connected masterpieces. Her example stated that students would turn in paragraphs with

consecutive paragraphs being written very differently. This was a direct result of students

researching then typing and taking random breaks. Many times in college I walked through the

library and saw many students drifting from their assignment back to personal websites. In

comparison when reading a book a student must focus on one source and does not have near as

many temptations to get off task.

       Another part of distraction is the Internet in some cases gives so many options students

do not know where to start. Students can spend hours clicking from Website to Website getting

nowhere. When utilizing print sources a much greater likelihood exists of the source being

credible as well as usable then the many articles mentioned in a search engine.