

Read the text and complete the chart below with a word from the list that comes after the text. Every word can only be used ONCE. There are five words that you do not need to use. Question 0 has been answered as an example.

Multitasking, the Effects: A Culture Less Thoughtful, Less Productive, Less Creative

Our lives have certainly been enriched by our 0) NEWFOUND access to oceans of information, by the extraordinary expansion of our visual world, our global mobility and social connectivity. However, the digital age is also a *distracted* age, and many of the new ways in which we think and work may be undermining our ability to go deeply in thought and relations. That sets the stage for the kind of short-term, 1) _____ decision-making that played a role in the economic meltdown[1] – and could hobble[2] our recovery.

Consider how we're working. Today, we are highly 2) _____ in many senses. We speedily click through emails and tick items off our never-ending to-do lists. Yet, problem-solving often gets done in fractured snippets[3].

As a result, 3) _____ a third of workers say they're too busy and interrupted to process or reflect on the work they do, according to the Families and Work Institute. High levels of interruptions also are related to stress, frustration, even 4) _____ creativity, studies from Harvard Business School show. Intriguingly, people who multitask most often are less able to focus on what's important than those who multitask 5) _____, one new study shows.

Secondly, a reliance on machine-led, push-button answers and what's first-up on Google may be further inhibiting our ability to create knowledge from the data-floods that surround us. Only half of college students can judge the 6) _____ of a website. Less than a third of college graduates can 7) _____ read a document such as a food label. Only three-quarters of four-year college graduates display 8) _____ critical thinking skills, executives say.

There's no one reason for these deficiencies, yet we cannot 9) _____ thoughtful, creative citizens in a distracted world. If we don't change our path, we may collectively develop new forms of 10) _____, born not from lack of information but from an inability or an unwillingness to do the difficult work of producing knowledge from the data 11) _____ our world.

Adapted

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ADEQUATE	INCREASED	NEWFOUND	PRODUCTIVE
FLOODING	LOWERED	NURTURE[4]	PROFICIENTLY
IGNORANCE	MORE	OBJECTIVITY	RARELY
INADEQUATE	NEARLY	PREJUDICED	SHALLOW[5]

[1] Meltdown: a complete failure, especially in financial matters.

[2] To hobble: to limit something or control the freedom of someone.

[3] Snippet: a small and often interesting piece of news, information or conversation.

[4] Nurture: to take care of, feed and protect someone or something, especially young children or plants, and help them to develop. to help a plan or a person to develop and be successful.

[5] Shallow: having only a short distance from the top to the bottom. Superficial, not deep.