

Interpersonal Communication in a Digital Age

Advances in communication technology, such as email and social media, have changed how we communicate globally. Some feel that the changes have been positive, allowing for instant communication in the case of collaborative research, natural disasters, and human rights activism. Others feel that the immediacy of communication has led to a culture with a short attention span and has had a negative impact on individual creativity and in-person relationships. Have we become too focused on our online life and the expense of our non-virtual interactions? Do the ways in which we can real-time global communication to collaborate provide meaningful ways for human kind to better themselves?

Examine three different perspectives on this below.

Perspective 1:

The advances that have been made in communication technology have had a positive impact on our global society and individual lives. We are able to collaborate and face global crises with a united front because of the speed with which messages can be conveyed.

Perspective 2:

The ability to contact almost any part of the world at a moment's notice has created a void in our daily interactions with each other. People are too focused on their online presence and problems from distant places instead of on their immediate community.

Perspective 3:

The emphasis on collaborative work created by global communication has reduced the drive of the individual to create and develop new ideas. Individuals do not reach the same level, artistically and creatively, as they did in the past due to an over-emphasis on making everything palatable to a larger community.

Essay task

Write a unified, coherent essay in which you examine the ways that global communication has helped or hindered society. In your essay be sure to:

- analyze and evaluate the perspectives given
- state and develop your own perspective on the issue
- explain the relationship between your perspective and those given

Your perspective may be in full agreement with any of the others, in partial agreement, or wholly different. Whatever the case, support your ideas with logical reasoning and detailed, persuasive examples.