

In all of the articles and sources, the authors explore how technology affects daily life and how people think about it. Each one has a distinct perspective and tone. In the Freakonomics Podcast, the hosts explain their opinions on technology in a conversational and approachable tone making it more relatable to readers. Ray Bradbury takes a more weary and uneasy tone in his story, using the example of television to show his concerns about how technology influences society. In Jean Twenge's article, she writes in a straightforward tone about the impact of technology on younger generations, explaining her worries about how children will grow up in a world with lots of technology and social media. The book written by Scientific American Editors, explains how technology can be used to distort the truth and spread false information and how that can be dangerous. In a book written by Bruce E. Drushel and Kathleen M. German, they explain the ethical problems of social networks and media. While all the authors, Bradbury, Freakonomics, Twenge, Scientific American Editors, and Drushel and German, have their own opinions on how technology has affected the decline in mental health, growth, and communication in society, they are still able to express and explain their ideas in their own ways and tone in order to get their points across.

All of the sources explore how technology affects everyday life, but each does so from a unique angle. In the Freakonomics podcast, "Is Screen Time as Poisonous as We Think?" The hosts explore whether screen time is really harmful to mental health, especially for young people. They do this in a different tone that is very conversational and light. This is so that they can discuss together and have listeners be able to have discussions and debates while keeping a good attitude even with differing opinions. They look into the impact of technology like smartphones, screens, and social media on daily life and mental health. It looks at the rising rates of anxiety and

depression alongside the growth of smartphone use. They compare the growth of smartphones and screen time to the growth of mental health issues and how they relate and differ. They also discuss how other factors like social, cultural, and personal influences play a role. The episode explains that you should be mindful of the time you spend on social media and on screens because you really never know the effects that it could have on you. This is similar to Jean Twenge's opinion in the article, "Have Smartphones Destroyed a Generation?" because she highlights the importance of this generation and their addiction to social media and technology. She also explains how there have been significant increases in mental health issues among teens, including depression, anxiety, and suicide rates, lining up with the rise of smartphone usage. This article urges society to consider the long-term effects of smartphone use on youth development and wellbeing.

Ray Bradbury's story, "The Pedestrian" explores the effects of technology on society through a more cautious and uneasy tone. The story has a man named Leonard Mead taking a walk at night in a city that has people glued to the television and disconnected from one another. Bradbury uses Mead's isolation to highlight the dangers of over relying on technology with a society that makes human interaction and curiosity have been replaced by addiction to the media and screens. Unlike the Freakonomics podcast, which presents technology in a more balanced and approachable way, Bradbury emphasizes its potential to drive individuals to stray away from human contact and causes more of a division between the community. He attempts to scare readers by saying that in the future, life could be completely taken over by society's addiction to technology and wants his readers to be aware and try and stop life from heading in this direction. His tone is wary in order to create a sense of discomfort that warns readers about a future

dominated by technology. By using this voice, Bradbury explains not only the consequences of the overuse of technology but also how society prioritizes convenience and entertainment over human connection and interaction.

In Jean Twenge's article "Have Smartphones Destroyed a Generation?" Twenge takes a straightforward and evidence-based approach to explain how smartphones and social media are reshaping the lives of young people. She argues that the rise of smartphones and social media has increased a higher amount of anxiety, depression, and loneliness, especially for girls. Twenge also points out that many teens now spend less time hanging out in person, dating, or doing normal activities like driving, because they are on their phones instead. She warns that this constant use of technology can hurt sleep and make people feel more isolated. Unlike the Freakonomics podcast, which talks about technology in a more balanced and casual way, Twenge's tone is serious and worried. Her ideas are also like Ray Bradbury's story The Pedestrian, since both show how technology can weaken real human connection, though Twenge uses modern studies and facts to prove her point.

One of the main ideas in the book written by Scientific American Editors in Truth, Lies, and Technology is that digital platforms make it much easier for misinformation to spread quickly. The editors explain that false stories often travel faster than truthful ones because they are more shocking or emotional. This connects to the way social media algorithms are designed to promote content that gets clicks, shares, and comments, even if it is misleading. Both Truth, Lies, and Technology and Bradbury's The Pedestrian explore how technology can take control of

people's lives. In the nonfiction book, the editors explain how algorithms and digital platforms decide what people see online, often pushing misinformation that shapes opinions without users realizing it. Similarly, in *The Pedestrian*, Bradbury shows a future where people are so glued to their televisions that they no longer think for themselves or go outside.

In the *Ethics of Emerging Media: information, social norms, and new media technology* written by Bruce Drushel and Kathleen German argue that technologies raise serious ethical questions about how information is created and shared. They explain that social media, digital platforms, and new communication tools don't just spread information faster and they also challenge long standing rules about privacy, responsibility, and honesty. For example, the book examines how platforms like Facebook or Twitter can be used to spread harmful misinformation, but those same platforms often avoid taking full responsibility for the damage caused. The authors emphasize that it is not enough to simply look at what technology can do, we also must ask what it should do. Both *Truth, Lies, and Technology* and *The Ethics of Emerging Media* examine how misinformation spreads through new technologies, but they approach the issue differently. The *Scientific American* Editors focus on the rise of fake news, deepfakes, and algorithms that push misleading content into people's feeds. They warn readers about how quickly lies can spread in today's digital age. Drushel and German, however, go deeper into the ethical side of this problem, They discuss questions like, Who is responsible when misinformation spreads like creators, platforms, or consumers? While *Truth, Lies, and Technology* highlights the dangers of deception, *The Ethics of Emerging Media* pushes readers to think about accountability and moral responsibility in this new digital age.

In conclusion, All of the authors use their own tone and their own ways in order to shape their sources and get their point across. While they all have the same stance on the topic it is their voices that make their perspective important and valuable.

-You are on the right track for fulfilling this assignment, i would work on giving more detailed in-depth sentences on why something the author says or does is meaningful to your thesis.

-You did very well in going in depth on the writers' emotions behind their writing.

-The introduction caught my attention very well and made me want to read more about how the authors got the same point across but in different tones.

-Your body paragraphs do both support your thesis addressing the tone in each article.

-Your claims are well supported but i would add more detailed information in your body paragraphs tying each point into each other Rather than listing.

Do you believe there are different motives behind the texts and the way they address the issue of technology?

#### Works Cited

Bradbury, Ray. The Pedestrian, 1951

Dubner, Stephen J., host. "Is Screen Time as Dangerous as We Think?" Freakonomics Radio, episode 391, Freakonomics. 22 Jan. 2020

Drushel, Bruce E., and Kathleen German, editors. The Ethics of Emerging Media: Information, Social Norms, and New Media Technology. Continuum, 2011

Scientific American Editors. Truth, Lies, and Technology: Real and Fake News in the Digital Age. Scientific American Educational Publishing. 2023

Twenge, Jean M. "Have Smartphones Destroyed a Generation?" The Atlantic, Sept. 2017