

Name

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P Number

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Reading of the week The nervous breakdown of the internet.

Briefly note down your responses to the answers, which can be in paragraphs or bullet points. But be prepared to elaborate and share them with the class.

What are the key ideas of the paper? Or what key messages are presented by the author(s)?

- The main key idea of this paper is to explain that the internet is beginning to have a break down due to the way its users interact with it as a society, security ramifications, general over use and the many ethical considerations of how its users and many different governments use the internet.
- Describes how we shall maintain trust in general use of the internet.
- To diagnose problems of cyber security
- To explain past interpretations of the cyber security and present interpretations.
- Many examples from the onset explained to the negative effects of Cyber Crime such as:
 - Islamist (in this context and the context of the media) / terrorist extremism
 - Customer information is stolen regularly such as the case of the company TalkTalk where loads of customer information was recently stolen.
 - Internet fraud / Internet scams
 - Cyber / network based wars, past, present and future.

What evidence or method, if any, is used to support the main argument of the paper?

- Edward Lucas written book on cyber security and covers it for the economist magazine.
- Various interviews with people, industry experts, victims and general public.
- Speech from news sources. E.g. Theresa May explaining how cyber crime is rising.
- Edward Lucas's main interpretations.

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Do you agree or disagree with what is being said? Why? Or what are your comments on the argument presented by the author(s).

- I did not agree when the author kept using news reports where the government spoken in a bad way about the internet, the author then only justified this is wrong in a very broad sense but by saying generally politicians do not have much technical knowledge technical aspects of technology and the internet. I agreed with that part but it did not make sense within the examples he used beforehand.
- I did not agree with him focusing on the negatives mostly, where the only notable mention of benefits of the internet in society is wealth creation and creativity increasing, but this was the only broad mention of this aspect throughout.
- I agreed with a lot of what industry experts were mentioning especially the statement that mentioned humans are the main flaw in security, although some experts touched on too many subjects to quickly making them sound more negative and easy than they actually are.
- I agree that security on the internet and technology in general is struggling to keep up with modern times, it is definitely visible and apparent in today's society as there seems to be a lack of education in this area.

How can you relate points made by the author(s) to reality? Any examples?

- I can relate to the point about security struggling to keep up in computing and technology, as someone who was alive before the Internet took off and mobile phones became common, I feel now almost in a state of paranoia in terms of my digital data that I hold personal to myself. Examples mainly revolve around my debit card, where it now uses wireless contact payments I purchased a new wallet to shield it from hackers stealing my details wirelessly, additionally hackers have also developed methods on cash machines where they attach devices to clone your debit cards, hence now I shield my pin number when entering it in on a cash machine, additionally general passwords I use now are way way stronger and harder to guess than to what I used in the 1990's.
- I can relate to the words 'nervous breakdown of the internet' but in a slightly reworded non literal sarcastic sense of 'nervous breakdown of my own security / interpretation of the internet' where I find too much involvement and over analysis in this now mass data driven society we live in creates an easier and overwhelming state of fear as to which I find corporations and governments can use this state of fear to get people on there side more. A basic example of this is Virus scanners on a PC, I have not used one in over a decade, so are the companies that make these trying to sell me something based on fear? I have never had a virus on my computer as I am very careful in what I do on it.

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