

Artificial Intelligence and Social Media's Effect on Writing

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Artificial intelligence (AI) and social media have advantages, such as rapid feedback and wider reach. However, they also have downsides for writing because of the effects they cause. These are decreasing your attention span, encouraging weak and basic content, and limiting opportunities for your skill development and use of critical thinking. To try to help these disadvantages, balancing both is very crucial. The effects that newer platforms and technology like social media and AI, have on writing have recently been very impactful. But there are a lot of differing opinions, along with positives and negatives. Additionally, because short-form information sometimes limits in-depth and complex arguments, these platforms also limit chances to learn new skills and use critical thinking because AI will do most of the work for you.

Social media is known for its short-form content. Because of this, it has greatly affected writing and readers. Many people now have shorter attention spans and expect content to be brief, so when it isn't, they may feel overwhelmed. This trend has also encouraged shorter sentences and simpler writing styles. This trend of shorter content has impacted many people's writings, instead of lengthier and more complex with more details. Many have become used to writing in brief and short context, but it's at a sacrifice of complexity and length. The need for brief, quick information is overtaking the ability to create complex and structured writings and arguments. This may make it more difficult for people to think critically and thoroughly look through more difficult concepts. The writing and reading habits have been impacted by the rise of short-form content on social media, but it has also opened up new opportunities. One of the biggest positives is how it could reach so many people, along with the writer to get feedback faster. Social media has helped authors reach a larger audience and get feedback quicker, it helps them connect with the readers in ways they might not have been able to before. Similar to the impact social media has had, AI has also had a big role as of lately in writing.

From personal experience along with close friends of mine have noticed that AI is, in our opinion, best used for things like coming up with examples, differing perspectives and opinions, and possibly helping clean up essays with some grammar mistakes we could have missed. Last week I saw when I opened my app store that Apple was promoting its new AI features and the apps that go along with it like ChatGPT. Some of the new features being introduced are that it can proofread your text, rewrite until you like the tones and wording, and summarize selected text for you. This could be very useful, but it could be used very negatively. Some negatives I have experienced, along with the main reason why many people don't like using it, is because it takes a lot away from you. For those who use it a lot they lose out on learning from the assignment at hand, it lacks someone using their critical thinking, and not exercising the methods we learn.

Like many things, balance is the best thing when using both social media and AI. Writing has been significantly impacted by AI, which provides resources like content creation, grammatical checkers, and suggestions. AI can facilitate brainstorming by presenting several viewpoints and ideas, and it can speed up the editing process by pointing out mistakes and making suggestions for improvements. It could improve the effectiveness and accessibility, specifically for people who might find some writing tasks difficult and don't want to do it. But that could also be a big problem since it's not that reliable with information and could be plagiarized without someone realizing it. There are many disadvantages, for example starting to depend too much on AI. One of my biggest concerns about this is that writing could become less creative and personalized because of AI. AI writing can be seen as less authentic and genuine, so many people question its authenticity. It could make writing better if the tools are used correctly, for example, it could be used as a way to help with writing rather than doing it for you. It's very

important to capitalize off AI's efficiency and support abilities while maintaining the standard methods of writing like critical thinking and personalizing your work.

In conclusion, social media and AI bring major challenges to writing along with many benefits. Things like a quicker response, a larger audience, and more efficiency. But because of these positives, they also come at a cost. This limits chances of learning new skills, using critical thinking, encouraging simplified information, chances of plagiarism, not being reliable, and negatively affecting people's attention spans. To try and reduce these disadvantages, it's very important to have balance if you use any of these for writing. AI and social media have major varying effects on writing, both positive and negative. So, when researching and looking at how they both affect writing, it's very important to look at both sides. Finding a balance between using their advantages, while also managing their disadvantages is very important. While we start to become accustomed to and learn these new things, we must adapt to these new resources and changes. It's important to try to find the balance between using these new tools and continuing to have writing complexity and detail in the work.