Your name

Tutor's name

Course

Date

For and Against Communication on the Internet

A human is a social being by nature. Living in social groups, having relationship with each other, and using different human languages to communicate our ideas to each other is crucial for us. Both spoken and written languages are effective tools to share ideas, emotions, and knowledge. Throughout the history of humanity, there were many means of communication. Cave paintings, symbols carved on stone walls, cuneiform, hieroglyphics, Latin and other scripts were used for such a purpose. At the same time, people were looking for an easy way to transfer their messages over a long distance. As a result, they invented mail, telegraph, pigeon post, telephones, and cell phones. For more than 20 years, we have been using the Internet to communicate, and it can be regarded as a revolutionary invention. However, even the most useful invention must be implemented and used properly.

Compared to traditional mail or a telegraph, Internet communication is a giant leap concerning speed. The world seems smaller with the Internet; you can keep in touch with a person who lives in a remote spot of our planet. We can enjoy a video conference with a high-resolution video and quality sound. It is also very convenient, since computer literacy is a common thing nowadays and making a video call or using a messenger is not rocket science. Another thing that changed the way we communicate is the growing popularity of social networking services. People who lack communication in real life can find friends on the Internet. There are some reasons for such popularity, such as people cannot see the real you, so you can pretend to be someone else or be more confident while communicating on the Internet. It is surely more preferable for shy people than talking to someone in real life.

On the other hand, Internet communication differs from talking to a person in real life. Very often, you cannot see facial expression or gestures, which plays an important role in non-verbal communication. We have mentioned before that you can pretend to be better on the Internet. Therefore, a person you are talking to online can easily hide his or her vices. People are becoming more and more obsessed with communicating online wherever they are. It is a typical situation, when many people are tweeting about a concert they are at instead of watching it. A couple of friends with cell phones in a cafe often forget to talk with each other, posting pictures of food on Instagram or updating their Facebook statuses. Our devices have become portable, so we can carry them all with us, but as we can see, they can often distract us from the world around us.

To sum up, communication on the Internet cannot be completely good or bad. There are certain aspects of the Internet we need to think about continually, such as we cannot underestimate the advantages of the Internet over other means of communication, when we need to keep in touch with a person who is far away from us. Nevertheless, at the same time, Internet communication cannot be a replacement for real-life communication. After all, they can normally exist together and be used for certain purposes. What we all must do is to learn when it is better to talk face-to-face instead of sending messages on the Internet.

Bibliography

David Mielach. *Virtual vs. Real Life Communication: What Do Workers Prefer?* 2013. Web
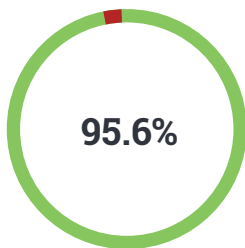
Susan Tardanico. *Is Social Media Sabotaging Real Communication?* 2012. Web.