

Assignment 01: Internet Review: Personal Perspective of the Web

Web Development I

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"The Internet is the great masterpiece of human civilization. As an artifact it challenges the pyramid, the aqueduct, the highway, the novel, the newspaper, the nation-state, the Magna Carta, Easter Island, Stonehenge, agriculture, the feature film, the automobile, the telephone, the telegraph, the television, the Chanel suit, the airplane, the pencil, the book, the printing press, the radio, the realist painting, the abstract painting, the Pill, the washing machine, the skyscraper, the elevator, and cooked meat. As an idea it rivals monotheism."

-Virginia Heffernan, *Magic and Loss: The Internet as Art*

"The Internet is a series of tubes."

-Senator Ted Stevens

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They call us 'Digital Natives': people who were born into the hyperconnected Internet Age. For most of—if not our entire lives—the web has been deeply integrated in our day-to-day experiences. We shape our understanding of the world based on so much of the information we absorb from the Internet; how can we possibly separate ourselves from it long enough to assess the impact it has on who we are?

For this assignment, consider your own "personal perspective" of the web, and submit a brief written response. But instead of a traditional "mini-essay" format, craft your response in the form of a review of the Web. In class I asked you all to rate the Internet on a scale of 1 to 10. It's an absurd idea, but at the same time, it was the Internet that gave us the chance to review things like the Pacific Ocean ([currently at a lukewarm 3.1/5 Stars on Google Maps](#)). While this might be a satirical approach to a personal perspective of the web, I ask that you mix that satire with some serious, honest reflection about the Web.

## Guidelines:

1. (optional) read this satirical article by The Onion: [Pitchfork Gives Music 6.8](#)
2. In 250-300 words, write your personal "review" of the web. Have fun with it, but take it seriously!
3. Include a score at the end. Could be a number out of 10, a letter grade, a Two Thumbs Up, or whatever scale you decide to come up with.
4. Upload your response on Canvas as a text entry, PDF or txt file. You may also include your response on you class portfolio website.