

# Written response

## 1.5 Methods of contextualising

### A Statement

The Internet is often considered democratic, but does it have its own form of control and governance? While life is deeply dependent on the Internet, does it really reflect our lives and surroundings in a comprehensive and unbiased way? Our group's challenge to search engines' one-sided perspective on the climate crisis prompted me to reflect on the impact of how information is accessed on understanding climate change and engaging in climate justice action. At the same time, by transforming web content into an entity archive and inserting diverse information and perspectives, we explored how the presentation of information can be shaped in innovative ways to increase sensitivity and awareness of climate issues. After listening to the feedbacks of the last week, I also realised that apart from this form of insertion, are there other participatory behaviours that can be used to narrate our concepts and emphasise our position?

At the same time, our project emphasised the need to take into account the interests of different social groups and non-human life when discussing climate issues, which further deepened my understanding of climate justice. It made me realise that climate justice is not only about environmental protection, but also about social equity, human rights and ecosystem protection. It also made me begin to reflect on how to think beyond the framework of human perspectives and reflect issues in a multi-dimensional way in the process of making art. This will also become an area that needs further attention in my subsequent studies.

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### An annotated bibliography

#### ***Reading 01 : 'The Medium is the Massage' by McLuhan and Fiore***

For this brief, our group chose to use the google search engine as a time device to explore climate justice. After identifying the medium, we immediately thought of the book '***The Medium is the Massage***'. As McLuhan and Fiore emphasise (1976), the google search engine as a medium is not only a tool for delivering information, but also a force that actively shapes and changes human thinking and behaviour by presenting information in a particular form and structure. And with the one-sided messages that google search engines bring, how do they affect our understanding and perception of the climate crisis? The first time we browse the search interface, we are surrounded by different forms of information, such as images, videos, sounds, and texts, etc. How do these different forms of information shape or deepen the user's position on climate justice, respectively? Do they have a consistent impact?

#### ***Reading 02 : 'The internet does not exist' by Aranda, Wood and Vidokle***

Aranda, Wood and Vidokle (2015) proposes that the internet is not an entity that exists on its own, but rather a virtual network constructed by political, commercial and power relations. They explores the complexity of the power structures, information control and digital culture behind the internet. This book has sparked many discussions in our group and new ways of thinking about understanding contemporary digital society. The sovereignty of Google's search engine as the dominant search engine coupled with the fact that English is the official language of the world will undoubtedly influence the depth and breadth of information that most users can receive without being noticed. They references to algorithmic censorship and filtering of information in the Internet's information flow, the misuse of power by digital tools, and the virtuality of the digital subject matter contributed to the birth of the group's second weekly development idea. The idea for the second week's deepen was born. It also prompted us to start thinking about how the power structure represented by Google search engine impacts the climate crisis. Does it reflect a particular form of control and governance over the climate crisis?

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#### ***Reading 03 : 'Calling for a More-Than-Human Politics' by Jain***

In fact, this was my first encounter with the term climate justice and how to think beyond anthropocentrism to the climate crisis. Reading this article also made me realise that there are complex and close relationships between humans and other organisms and technologies, and that these relationships should be taken into account when formulating policies and planning social development. It also made our group, in the process of observing and categorising the google search results from 1970-2024, notice that the message it conveys basically stays at an anthropocentric level, with the vast majority of the discussion revolving around the interests and well-being of human beings, ignoring the impacts of the climate crisis on other species as well as the countervailing effects of human behaviour on the world's ecology.

#### ***Reading 04 : 'Creating Democracy: A Dialogue with Krzysztof Wodiczko' by Phillips***

According to the last week tutorial and this article, I found what we need to think more about is the combination of artistic interventions in public space and multimedia, interdisciplinary practice with our existing project to reflect on the one-sidedness of the Google search engine. Wodiczko's work is often shown and presented in public space, which offers a new direction for you and I to take our practice. Our group could consider presenting publications in urban environments, though we would need to think through which places would be appropriate for placement? Why is it appropriate? And when to place them? It is possible that in the future we will combine this project with experimental video or interactive installation design and place it in museums or libraries where it can be read and accessed by a wider range of people. However, at the moment this is an idea that needs to be refined.

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#### ***Reading 05 : 'Whole Earth Catalog' by Brand***

This magazine was recommended to our group by the tutor during the final presentation, and after my general browsing of the book, I found that it is not a research methodology book in the traditional sense, but more like a resource manual or guide. Our group can get multi-dimensional, diversified and multi-disciplinary inspirations to support our research and exploration in different fields by reading the large amount of information collected in this book on various topics. Perhaps we can find more and more suitable, even not limited to the current manifestations of archive and insert action in the process of reading this information.

#### ***Reading 06 : 'Black Goopy Universe' by American Artist***

***Black Goopy Universe (2021)*** uses elements of colour, materials, and historical context to redefine how we think about race in the digital age. They boldly play with materials and look for connections between them, while at the same time helping the viewer to better understand the connection between the project and humanity through the connections between the materials. We were inspired by american artist to experiment with playing with materials during the course of the project. For example, in addition to inserting paper, in archive volume 02 we tried to insert materials from nature, from a non-human perspective, in an attempt to look at the climate crisis outside of anthropocentrism. If the paper in volume 02 was replaced with other biological materials, what new connections would it make with human behaviour? Would there be a better connection to non-anthropocentrism? Could we also try to change the materials used to insert the paper in the other volumes? Or to change the way the material is connected to the archive? Could this connection be wrapping in addition to insertion? Or destroying the original publication? Secondly, can we subdivide the 'depression' part? Thinking about the position of different races on climate justice, for example. There really are many more deeper, detailed directions for development here that we should think about.

# Reference list

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