# E-WRITING-THE IMPACT OF COMPUTERS ON TRADITIONAL ENGLISH WRITING

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Communication plays a very important role in our daily lives. When we interact with others, we use different means of communication. Communication has advanced from simple speech into, cave paintings to the World Wide Web and many types of latest electronic devices. With the recent creation of electronic communication, we could talk to each other at any place around the world in real time instantaneously. Another wonderful advantage it gives to us is the ability use our time more efficiently.

Electronic communication places new demands on language that leads to interesting variations in written language use. The language of e-mail, chats, web-based discussions and SMS messages is marked by features of both informal speech and formal writing, a host of text based icons and acronyms for managing social interaction and changes in spelling norms. In addition, the electronic medium provides a new context for the writing process. Word-processing and e-publishing have brought interesting in developments in the way writers write. Hailed as a powerful educational resource, the e-medium has not only revolutionized the composing process but has also been found to encourage participation in writing activity. One reason for this is that e-mail and online chats provide a non-threatening atmosphere in which writers feel less inhibited about expressing themselves, encouraging even timid students who usually refuse to speak in face-face discussions to actively participate in online chats. Another reason is that the web provides an area for writers to present their work to a real and larger audience that extends beyond classroom and school boundaries. When students realize that they are going to put their work on the web for readers in the real world, they are motivated to write.

The online domain has also substantially increased opportunities for collaboration in writing. Teachers are using the internet to create complex partnerships among their students and post the results online. Online collaborative tools allow students to exchange critiques synchronously or asynchronously as well as a heightened awareness of audience. This sense of audience motivates them to write carefully and to be more accountable for their writing. Both the process and content of writing are evolving in responseto the increased use of the e-medium for writing instruction and to the language e-communication itself.

Computers and the electronic writing have enabled significantly alter traditional conceptions of writing. The effects of electronic writing on traditional text call for a reexamination of the prevailing print metaphor for online writing.

E-communication is a form of communication that it is used for the transfer of data, information, images, signals, signs, wire, electromagnetic energy, radio, photo electronic or photo optical system, with its growing popularity, people have started to

communicative via e-mail. E-communication helps us to combine numerous media-text, graphics, sound, video etc.

Electronic communication technology has revolutionized the composing process and participation in writing activities. Since e-mail provides a non-threatening atmosphere and an arena for students to present their work beyond classroom boundaries. They are encouraged to write. However, this has led to a new variety of the written language, which seems to be deviant from the traditional norms.

Although language has always been changing, according to the developments in communication technology its change has recently accelerated and led to interesting variations in written language use. The evolution of an abbreviated language is due to the short comings and technical restrictions of SMS as a means of communication. The existence of a common background between close friends and family members seem to be another reason for a reasonable use of syntactic and lexical short forms to save energy, space and time. Since only a tiny space is available to communicate, the texture has to condense meaning into a short message. A special shared knowledge is required to understand this language variety, which is an indicator of group affiliation.

Since the language of e-mail and SMS messages is associated with acronyms and changes in spelling norms, it is inherently informal communication system. The electronic age has provided a new context for the writing process. Investigating the various features of written language found in e-mails and text messages will have implications for writing and writing instructions. A new variety of the written language is evolving in response to the increased use of the electronic means of communication such as e-mail and SMS. Along with advancements in electronic communications, changes in what and how students write seem quite natural. Depending on the degree of our adherence to the conventions of formal writing, these changes may seem positive or negative.

Standard spelling, punctuation and capitalization are some of the characteristics of the normal written language. When the writer sends an e-mail with no capitalization and punctuation or an SMS full of abbreviations and acronyms for the sake of brevity and convenience without thinking about the position of the receivers, it is difficult for them not to assume the sender is lazy. Naturally, they will not take the sender seriously. The rules for electronic communication are the same as for any professional dealings. If the writer acts professional, people will see him/her as professional, it is not important enough for the receivers to read it.

Although, it fast and time saving e-mail users to use SMS language in their messages, changing attitudes and introducing something new takes place. It is important to write clearly particularly if the readers are not native speakers of the language in which the e-mail is written. The credibility of the author will negatively be impacted if the hidden implication of the message is that his/her time is more valuable than the recipient's time.

It is understandable that e-mail users are in hurry now-a days, but can they ignore the importance of proofreading? Is there any excuse for grammatical mistakes, which

sometimes drive people nuts? They are judged by the quality of their writing. Their bad writing makes people look down on them, the inclusion of thanks, greetings, punctuation, capitalization and grammar will add to the credibility of the author while their omission to save as few precious seconds will show little respect for the reader, it is visible that SMS users make use of liguistic short-cuts applying the properties of both written and spoken language to the less formal language used in that messages, but the conventions of politeness and formatting often remain necessary.

Although e-mail and SMS are very useful communicating tools, it should be borne in mind the just like any other forms of communication, brevity, clarity and attention to tone and manner apply equally to electronic communication. The electronic communication technology has just led to more creativity in the written language. So that it can reduce space, effort, time and cost.

Information and communication technologies (ICT) are one of the major driving forces in the process of globalization. The technologies enable speedy contacts across borders, but it is not enough to spread their messages quickly-they must also be comprehensible to the receiver. The need for a global language is evident. English is dominant cross-cultural language and is increasingly affecting other languages well. The computer developed in the mid-twentieth century is undeniably a product of a literate and technological society. Computers re-introduce many oral characteristics into electronic writing. Computer mediated communication reintroduces the qualities of temporal immediacy, phallic communication, the use of formulaic devices, presence of extra texual content, and development of community that had been characteristics of oral communication.

Electronic writing is characterised by use of oral conventions over traditional convention, argument over exposition, and group thinking individual thinking. The oral convention is evident in the way people subvert or abandon traditional conventions of grammar and punctuation in electronic writing: e-writing thus transforms traditional writing by introducing oral elements that differentiate it from secondary oral sense. Computers incorporate a new oral sense by bringing new perspectives to the manipulation and understanding of writing.

Each specialised genre of traditional writing as its own standards for quality of content. But the final active feature of electronic writing is the writer's need to learn new and changing technologies. Although most computer word-processing software has the capability of conversion to hypertext, electronic writing requires knowledge of computers software skilled electronic writers need to incorporate the latest information organization and technologies.

Computers are currently seen as electronic extensions of prevailing models of literary society. Although electronic requires authors to learn new technologies, and to incorporate new interactive techniques, the conventions and traditions of print are still the touch stone. The prevailing print metaphor may need re-examination, because electronic

writing can be very different from traditional text in its oral sense. Computers are still in development and the possibility of change exists in the society.

**References**

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