



THINK.O DROME

BY MISSPAU

IMAGE TAKEN FROM www.aquaidwatercoolers.co.uk/drink-water-brain-power

STORYTIME

Imagine this class scenario

The teacher walks in and sorts out the group in two... Left, right, left, right. She hands out an assignment announcing that the kids on the left may proceed individually and solve the exercises while the kids on the right must grab the phone and search for the answers.

When asked why, the teacher explains that based on their recent submissions, the students on the right are not capable of working without technology so they will naturally be unable to figure out the answers by themselves.

As the left team groans and complains about the class divide and their counterparts' "advantage," the teacher moves on to pose a bigger question: "Which team is the most advantaged?"

Where would you like to be?

Illustrate your thoughts

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UNDERSTANDING WHO YOU ARE AND WHO YOU WANNA BE IN THE DIGITAL ERA

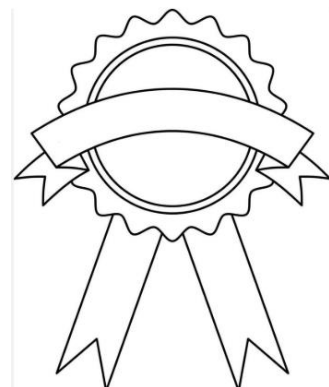
Personality Quiz. **Dependent** or **Independent** Thinker?

Write **Yes** or **No**

1. I need my apps to remind me of all birthdays
2. I would rather be told who to vote when I am old enough
3. I am very likely to buy a new product an influencer has shown on reels. I follow celebrities to see what they wear, what they are into or what they are up to IRL
4. I ask ChatGPT before I start to think about my own answers. When I am a bit overwhelmed by the lengthy answer generated I only copy some selected bits to suit my style
5. I just keep up with news stories that appear on my daily feed
6. I am not able to complete a whole page without googling a couple of words
7. I need external [human or digital] support to finish my tasks
8. I cannot cope with the overwhelming school demands of my level
9. I am usually not ready for exam dates so I need to copy brief summaries and keep them in my pocket last minute. I normally get away with it. Hush! Don't tell the teacher
10. I use AI as a personal assistant for learning because I think it saves time and helps me pass, which is ultimately the overall purpose of being at school

What badge / credential would you happily wear?

Mostly YES: Dependent Thinker. Too much assistance needed for daily life. Little intellectual investment. Mostly follows the crowd. Careful
Half and half: Still some room for intellectual endeavours, effort and autonomy. Learning and intelligence somehow exploited
Mostly NO: Independent Thinker. You're moving from Brain Power to Mental Prowess. You'll rule the world!



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READ THE HEADLINES BELOW, IDENTIFY WHAT HAPPENED, AND DISCUSS WHAT MADE THIS EVENT NEWSWORTHY

The New York Times

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Social Media on Trial | Companies Found Negligent | Child Safety Trial Against Meta | Snapchat Investigation | A 'Big Tobacco' Moment?

Meta and YouTube Found Negligent in Landmark Social Media Addiction Case

A jury found the companies harmed a young user with design features that were addictive and led to her mental health distress.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/25/technology/social-media-trial-verdict.html>

B B C

Campaigners welcome Meta and YouTube's defeat in landmark social media addiction trial

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c747x7qz249o>

edition.cnn.com/2026/03/25/tech/social-media-addiction-trial-jury-decision

<https://edition.cnn.com/2026/03/25/tech/social-media-addiction-trial-jury-decision>

New York — A California jury has found Meta and YouTube liable on all counts in a landmark case that accused the tech giants of intentionally addicting a young woman and injuring her mental health.

Meta and YouTube were negligent in the design of their platforms, knew their design was dangerous, failed to warn of those risks and caused substantial harm to the plaintiff, the jury found.

The decision could set a precedent for hundreds of similar cases and lead to major changes to how social media platforms operate, especially for young users — as well as millions, even billions, in losses for the tech companies.

NOW READ THE POEM BELOW AND ESTABLISH CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THESE SOURCES

LEAVE ME ALONE FOR ONCE

WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF EACH OTHER
WE'VE BOTH BEEN THROUGH A LOT
READING BETWEEN THE LINES
AUTO-FILLING CONVERSATIONS
CHECKING WHAT WE WERE BOTH DOING 24-7
SEEMED SO OVERWHELMING

YOU'VE DRAINED MY ENERGY
AND WORN ME OUT
SOMETIMES YOU LOST ME
BUT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER
I WAS FOREVER CAUGHT,
HELD, TRAPPED,
BOUND TO YOU

WHO OF THE TWO IS MORE TOXIC?
AM I?
IT MIGHT TAKE A COUPLE OF YEARS
TO TELL

WHEN DID I BECOME YOUR SOLE CENTRE OF ATTENTION?
DID WE ACTUALLY NEED TO BE SO CONNECTED?
WHY DIDN'T YOU HEAR OTHER PEOPLE'S CALLS BUT MINE?
WE BOTH KNOW WHO YOU HAVE NEGLECTED

DO I STILL ATTRACT YOU THE WAY I USED TO?
AM I LACKING THE PERFECTION,
THE GLAMOUR,
THE SPEED,
THE TOUCH,
THE PRECISION,
THE VALUE OF MY FORMER DAYS?

PLEASE LEAVE ME ALONE

ONCE I MEANT EVERYTHING TO YOU:

YOUR STUDY BUDDY,
YOUR RESEARCH GROUP,
YOUR ADVISOR
YOUR JESTER AND COMPANION IN LONELY TIMES,
YOUR SOLACE

WE MADE IT THROUGH HARDSHIP
BUT NOW WE OUGHT TO GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS.
YOU'LL RECOVER YOUR AUTONOMY,
YOUR REAL SELF,
AWAY FROM THE SYNISTER REWARD SYSTEM
WE WERE BOTH PART OF

FORGET ME

YOU'VE BEEN DREADING ISOLATION,
SEEKING MOTIVATION, MISSING CONVERSATION,
LOSING RELAXATION

YOU MAY NOW GET BACK UP AGAIN,
OPEN THE DOOR, TAKE A WALK,
GO FOR A RUN, LAUGH OUT LOUD,
GRAB A BOOK,
DANCE OR JOG,
ENJOY AS THE ONES
YOU'VE STALKED SO BADLY
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT,
WITHOUT ME

FORGIVE THE TIMES I JUST FAILED YOU,
I SIMPLY NEEDED TO SWITCH OFF FOR A WHILE.

FORGIVE ME
FOR INCREASING YOUR ANXIETY
LOWERING YOUR SELF-ESTEEM

FORGIVE ME
IF I CHANGED THE WAY YOU SAW OTHERS
OR THE WAY YOU WERE SEEN

YOU TOO NEED TO FIND A "NEW NORMAL"
WITHOUT ME SHRINKING YOUR VISION,
NARROWING YOUR PERSPECTIVE,
LULLING AND LURING YOU AWAY
FROM WHAT REALLY MATTERS

BE FREE

EXTRACT FROM
The Day the Phone Ended the Relationship

MISSPAU2021



TIME TO THINK

How did the poem - written in 2021 when schools were reopening and people were leaving their covid19 isolation - FORESHADOW the debate over the long-lasting effects and sentence over social media's liability and responsibility ?

How does the jury's decision FLASHBACK the damage and online harm reflected in the poem?

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