**Infographic Topics and Questions Generation Activity**

For this activity, we’ll be working in groups to generate a bunch of ideas for an infographic you can use as the basis for the next two assignments in the 103 class.

Note that you don’t have to stick with one of the topic/questions from this activity, but given that the proposal assignment is due in a week, it may be advisable.

What you need for a good infographic is a topic to start off on from which you can derive some possible questions. You’ll then need to do some additional research for working out which questions are answerable and, more specifically, which questions are answerable with statistics.

But you need to start somewhere, and topics and possible questions are good if they work as starting points for your research.

**Directions for Phase 1**

In your groups, please brainstorm for three possible topics from the step your group was assigned in class.

Appoint one person to be the reporter for the group and have that person join the Google Doc by clicking on the link provided in Canvas Announcements so they can add their group’s topics to the list for that “Step” from Kulwin’s article.

We will go two or three rapid rounds in this phase, you will stay in your group for each round, but you’ll get a new step to work on.

What does a good topic look like? It can be a quote from the article, a company named, a product, etc.

For example, if I was working on “Step 5” from Kulwin’s article, I might suggest “tech addiction” as a topic that was discussed in that step.

**Directions for Phase 2**

After we’ve all had a chance to post ideas for topics, next comes question generation. Working with the topics suggested for the step your group has been assigned, brainstorm for possible questions to be asked and, potentially, answered through an infographic.

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I’m asking each group to come up with at least three questions for each topic listed. **These should be questions that are answerable**. For example, “How large is Facebook’s user base in the United States?” is potentially answerable, “What is the meaning of Facebook?” is not.

**These questions should also potentially incorporate the use of statistics**. Again, a question like “Does tech addiction represent a real threat?” could be answered by finding numbers associated with tech addiction such as how many people could be affected by this and comparing this *number* with the *number* of people affected by alcohol or drug addiction. A question like “How does an individual become addicted to Twitter?” is less associated with statistics as it involves one person’s process.

Have the reporter append your group’s ideas for questions to the topics listed under **the appropriate step by typing the questions under the appropriate topic.**

**Step One: Start with hippie good intentions (list topics below)**

(Group Four)

~~How much time are people spending their tech devices?  Broken out by age~~.

~~Is tech getting more expensive / cheaper (is it getting more efficient)?~~

Is implantable biotech too invasive?

***~~What is Steve Jobs’s net worth?~~***

Hegemony; diversity in Silicon Valley.  What are the current statistics of the cultural backgrounds of the people working in software development and what are the impacts?

***Would self driving cars reduce the amount of fatalities involving vehicles?***

How many taxi cab and Uber drivers would be put out of work?

What impacts would cryptocurrency have on the economy?

~~How many companies have adopted Blockchain technology?~~

Tech companies morals/ motivations and considerations

How many tech companies or employees have been brought up on charges regarding misuse of technology?

~~How many tech companies have sold out and completely abandoned their “hippie good intentions?”~~

~~Connecting people (ellen pao) like minded people~~

~~Sharing ideas~~

~~What employees say comment on big data~~

**Step Two: Then mix in capitalism on steroids (list topics below)**

How much time people spend on social media

Childhood online purchase behavior

What is the age demographic of online purchasers?

CryptoCurrency usage vs Regular currency usage

How many countries have accepted/banned crypto?

Evolution of Social Media

* Is social media interface more complex now or easier to use?
* What is the trend of user growth?

Social Media privacy

*-How to protect my privacy?*

*-how is my privacy is compromised?*

*-How many people are affected by privacy misuse?*

Market power of top tech companies

Job security -

*-How many people have lost their jobs to AI?*

*-How relevant is a degree 5 years after you earn it on average.*

Greed’s influence on the internet. -

*-How many people are affected by net neutrality repeal?*

*-Which countries affected by no net neutrality?*

*-~~How are ISPs affected?~~*

*~~-How many ISPs exist, plus how many bought out competition?~~*

Should the internet be seen as something similar to that of its own economy and nature, separate from government.

**Step Three: The arrival of Wall Streeters didn’t help (list topics below)**

Virtual Monopoly

Silicon Valley

Profit style

Competitive Environment

Wall street changing goals; investment in tech

“It went from “I’m going to improve people’s lives” to “I’m going to build this product that everybody uses so I can make a lot of money.” Then Google went public, and all of a sudden you have these instant billionaires. So in 2008, when the markets crashed, all those people from Wall Street who were motivated by money ended up coming out to Silicon Valley and going into tech. That’s when values shifted even more.“

Correlation between the stock market crash and investment in technology

*Money invested in social media over time?*

*How many investors? Growth of investors! The shift!*

*~~How many stockholders over time!~~*

*~~Evolution of the monopolize~~*

*~~Evolution of the market share~~*

*~~Growth of cyberspace over time during this time~~*

**Step Four: And we paid a high price for keeping it free (list topics below)**

Climate Change

How has the belief of climate change changed with the use of social media?

Alternative Fuels

How do people consume their media/news?

Where is “fake news” coming from?

* How has social media such as Facebook and Twitter promoted this new idea of “fake news” over the internet?

Invasion of Privacy to Keep the Internet Free

* Does the use of advertising in websites dig too deep into people’s personal livelihoods?

Monitoring of Web searching by corporations

* How much power should a single company have over the internet, if the influence is high enough, maybe there should be limits to what corporations can do even in their own creation?

The Legality and Ethical Overview of Advertisement in the Current Age

**Step Five: (list topics below)**

1- Do video games correlate with violence in children?

* Do video games correlate with violence in children? There is a lot of data about this, and the answer is mostly no. But it’s complicated (Shannon, your grader)

2 - Does the amount of screen time among children comparative to today? -

Attachment to phones?

* How does time spent on phone differ between developed and developing countries.

3 - Time spent on certain apps

* What are the most popular app between different age groups?

4 - Views on controversial content vs. ‘normal’ content

5 - Are Facebook games manipulative?

* What is the most popular facebook game?

**Step Six: (list topics below)**

Time spent on social media

What would happen if social media just disappeared

How much data are companies collecting

Rates of ADHD amongst kids in tech generations

Which social media accounts are popular amongst different age/social groups

Propaganda; propaganda theory and how it relates to Facebook

Iphone

Algorithms

Outrage over social media platforms

Time spent using electronic devices

* ~~How much time do you spend on Facebook?~~ (This is answerable but is very simple. So what? How does time on Facebook affect X or Y might be better)
* ~~How much data are you using on your phone?~~
* ~~What is more popular, mac or windows?~~

**Step Seven: No one from Silicon Valley was held accountable (list topics below)**

Who’s fault is it if someone is misled due to social media.

Online streaming vs Television

PC gaming Vs Console Gaming

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Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act of 1996

Facebook

* How prevalent has fake news become on social media?
* How fast did Facebook grow compared to other similar social media site
* How many different websites/apps Facebook has been integrated with

Cyber Bullying

* What websites is it most prevalent on?
* What do different websites do to combat it?
* Ages of cyber-bullies vs. the cyber-bullied

Cyber hackers

* How prevalent of a problem has it been recently?
* What legal ramifications are currently in place?
* How well is it being tracked and prevented?

**Step Eight: Even as social networks became dangerous and toxic (list topics below)**

Role of social media in political movements

*How have socially progressive groups like BLM used social media to make changes*

*How did Facebook's low security affect the 2016 election?*

*How was social media played a role in campaigning?*

How social media affects newer generations

*How has it affected their mental health?*

*How has it changed the social atmosphere growing up?*

*How much money is it costing parents?*

Bullying

*Which site are you most likely to be bullied on?*

*How do social media websites prevent bullying?*

*What percentage of kids are bullied on social media?*

Monetization vs User Protection

*How much do companies spend on security vs growth and research?*

*Why did Youtube demonetized?*

*Do users feel safe giving away information on the internet?*

Dark sides of social media

*How many people are bullied?*

*How many hours are wasted on it?*

*How was it forced traditional businesses under?*

Identity fraud on social media

*Do people feel safe giving away info on the internet?*

*How many people get their identities stolen on the internet?*

*How much does it cost companies to protect against this?*

How has the internet affected Black Lives Matter?

*How has it gained momentum for the movement?*

*How has it helped their fundraising?*

*What sites are the most useful for organizing?*

People prefer to communicate virtually instead of face-to-face

*How has this contributed to social anxiety?*

*How was this affected childhood development?*

*How many hours does someone spend on facetime a day?*

*How has social media sites influenced teen’s mental health?*

*Have the rates of teens being cyberbullied increased?*

*How have groups like BLM utilized social media to make positive changes?*

**Step Nine (list topics below) - “… And even as they invaded our privacy.”**

Computers

Data privacy

Self driving cars

* How safe are self driving cars compared to normal cars.

What information should be allowed to be made public by companies?

-Should selling user data be illegal?

-Issue of Transparency of information about user

-People need to be educated on how websites are using user information

Are users aware of Facebook’s privacy policies?

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How has data privacy changed since computers became a common household commodity?

How likely is a user to give personal information when it is unnecessary?

How much data is given to third parties without explicit consent?

How much do advertisers spend on consumer data?

How often do users go out of their way to obscure information?

-measurable?

How common is identity fraud?

How much data is collected from companies and websites?

What do companies do with data collected from individuals?

**Step Ten: Then came 2016 (list topics below)**

Blockchain, Self-Driving Cars, HQ Trivia (growth over time)

Drones

Growing AI

Correlation between diet/mental health and technology

Does the growing AI will make more people lost their job? (this is not a grammatically correct sentence)

Does Technology have an effect on people’s mental/physical health?

Election

Now Trump use twitter to pose lots of important issues, does it lower the influence of the government?

Did Facebook have an influence on the outcome of the 2016 election? (Yes)

**Step Eleven: Employees are starting to revolt (list topics below)**

Employee satisfaction with these companies

Has employee dissatisfaction affected productivity of companies? (What kind of companies? Clarify)

Algorithmic & model changes

-Are advertising agencies or executives driving the incorporation of tracking user activity?

Employee guilt - What have i done?

How do employees raise their children in the digital age?

* What should your child learn in the digital age?

Do fb employees use fb differently? Different habits?

Who are companies selling retrieved data to?

Do companies have any boundaries as to what data they can and can’t sell?

How much are companies selling data for?  
What are the benefits of having all this information available on the web?

* Will employees eventually abstain from incorporating invasive advertisement? And would this become a trend, if so?

**Step Twelve: To fix it, we need a new business model (list topics below)**

Autonomous Cars

* How many accidents in a year vs regular cars
* How many companies are currently producing autonomous cars
* Reliability rates of autonomous cars

Cryptocurrency

* Rate of cyrptosecuity hackings
* Comparison of different types of cryptocurrency
* Reliability of cryptocurrency
  + Trends / prices

Use of Adblock

* How many people are currently using adblock
* How are companies counteracting adblocks / financial implications of adblocking software
* How many different softwares for adblocking and their success rates

Data Privacy

* Rate which data is stolen using information protection services vs not
* What kind of information is stolen and at what rates
* Comparison between companies that aggregate data

How advertisements can be changed to better work in an online environment.

* What new measures are companies adopting to improve ads success rate
* Customer bounce rates between different ad types
* Effect of consumers on websites that causes change in advertising tactics

Alternatives to advertising for making revenue online.

* Different revenue bases for online companies and comparison
* Satisfaction rate of users for paid and unpaid online services

Net neutrality problems

* What each telecom company provided to push net neutrality
* Difference of countries that have net neutrality and those who don't and their accessibility

Socially driven partitions caused by internet

* Different ways people have self segregated in categories of the internet
* Growth of negative movements vs positive movements on the web

**Step Thirteen: And some tough regulation (list topics below)**

Regulation against Bots

Enforcing age limits

Regulating fake news stories hello

Regulations what information is taken from third parties

Creating regulations- Net neutrality

Laws holding architects accountable

Is our human rights less important than our safety??;’

Anonymous payment system(s)

Liability for algorithm failures……………………………………………………………………….

**Step Fourteen: Maybe nothing will change (list topics below)**

-Monopolization of the Internet by a few corporations

*What corporations dominate the internet?*

*How much have prices risen because of monopolization?*

*How fast are internet speeds in places that aren’t monopolized*?-

-Videogames

-*Freemium, how much money does it make?*

*Do video games outsell movies?*

*How much money does it make studios per year?*

Global warming

*How much money will be lost switching to technologies that reduce global warming, if this is even practical or possible?*

*How many jobs will be made if we do switch technologies?*

*How much CO2 is being put in the air?*

Advertisement

*How much money do advertisements make?*

*Who controls what ads go where and how much money they make*

*Ads that have malicious intent are how common?*

Government Regulation

Paid Social Media Services

*Should these become the new standard instead of free websites with paid ads?*

**Step Fifteen: Unless, at the very least, some new people are in charge (list topics below)**

Inequality

Minority Hiring

1. What is the percentage of Minorities hired?
2. Are the people in power to hire and fire employees also under the minority group?

Length of time Executive Positions were held by different companies

Cybersecurity

1. How many people went through an identity theft on Facebook in 2017?
2. What percentage of teenagers went through cyber-bullying for last 10 years?
3. How much does it cost for companies to advance cybersecurity?

Advertisement

transparency

Death of myspace