The Influence of Technological Changes on the Definition of Information Literacy

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About us

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Information society

- Economically (Machlup, Porat, Drucker) from material to intelectual property
- Technologically (Shannon, Mansuda) impact of IT on society, incl. increasing importance of IL/IT literacy
- Sociologically (Castells, Bauman, Bell) incl.
 Digital Divide
- Historically (McLuhan, Toffler) changing role of information in history

Can we speak about information society today?

• The Czech republic is atheistic country, but....



IL and IT in information society

- "To be information literate, a person must be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate and use EFFECTIVELY the needed information" (American Library Association, 1989)
- IT simplify many activities with information
- Information is key, but using it is changed by IT => IL closely connected with IT

Simplifying

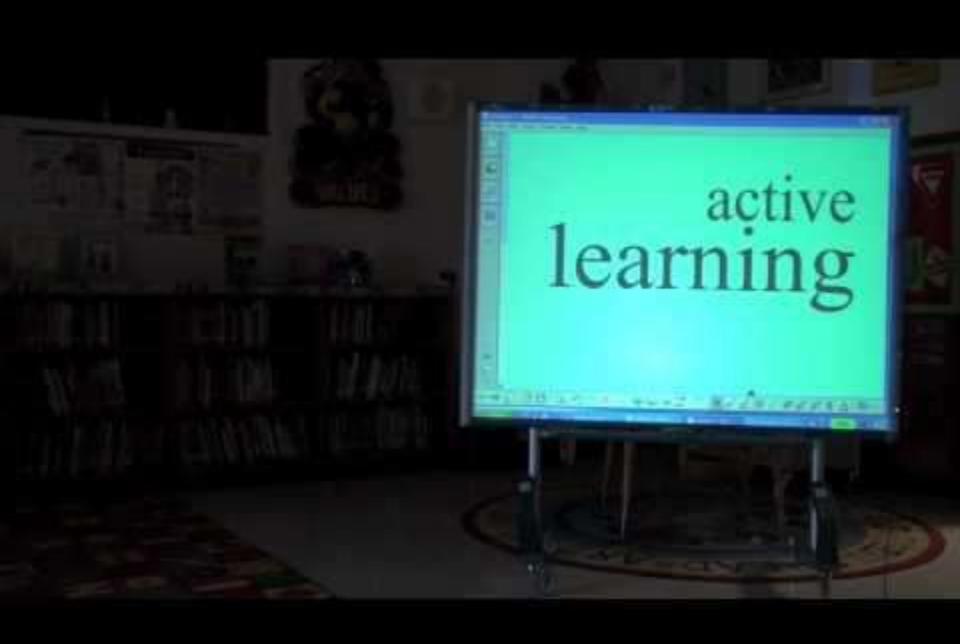
$$J(\mathbf{\alpha}) = \sum_{i=p+1}^{k_0-1} \left\{ y(t_i) - \left(\sum_{j=1}^p a_j y(t_{i-j}) \sum_{j=0}^q b_j u(t_{i-j}) \right) \right\}^2$$

$$+ \left\{ \tilde{y}(t_{k_0}) - \lambda(t_{k_0}) - \left(\sum_{j=1}^p a_j y(t_{i-j}) + \sum_{j=0}^q b_j u(t_{i-j}) \right) \right\}^2$$

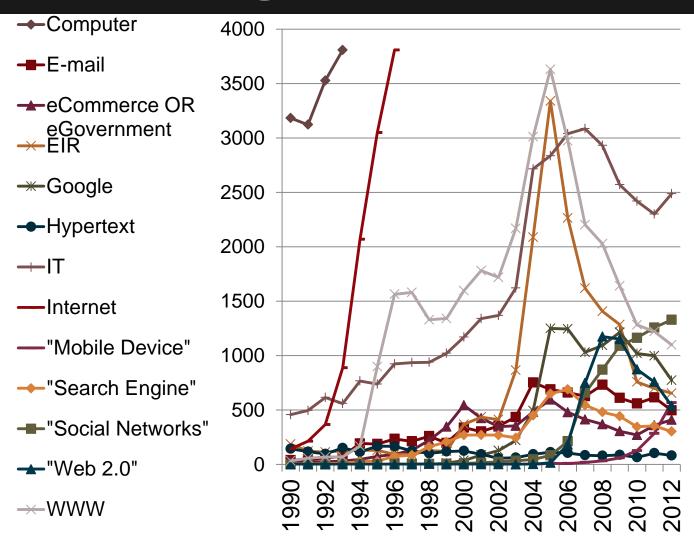
$$+ \sum_{i=k_0+1}^n \left\{ \tilde{y}(t_i) - \Delta_y(t_i) - \left(\sum_{i=1}^p a_j \left(\tilde{y}(t_{i-j}) - \Delta_y(t_i) \right) + \sum_{i=0}^q b_i u(t_{i-j}) \right) \right\}^2$$

$$(7)$$

You still need to understand how and why, but using IT you can restrict occurrence of mistake



Changes of IT



- Confront
 document
 analysis with
 changes of
 IL definitions
 => minimal
- Concrete
 influences
 described in
 full text

Crucial changes of IT related to IL (Helvoort)

- "content integration (federated search engines)
- amateur publishing (user generated content)
- use of social networks to find information
- personalization and push technology
- loss of context / fragmentation of information"
- => should be reflected in IL (use of this = condition to effectively cooperate with information in information society)

Using IT without IL

- Research of using IT (especially children) often limited and not effective
- But users are convinced about their knowledge - do not want to learn more
- Hard to show that it can be better with IL everyday work with user



Concepts of Literacies

- IL still as a umbrella term for other kinds of literacies?
- All contemporary concepts of literacies include visual, electronic and digital form of communication and expression
- All concepts are closely related to technologies

Literacies linked to Technologies

- Digital Literacy
- Computer Literacy
- Media Literacy
- Network Literacy
- Developing content of these literacies
- It is not possible to provide the definition of IL regardless to the context
- The lane changes direction from passive to active

New Literacies

- Almost all types of literacies emerged with the introduction of new technologies in last 15 years
- "NEW LITERACIES"
- Each new technology weakens or changes existing definitions

Compare characteristic key

IL definition:

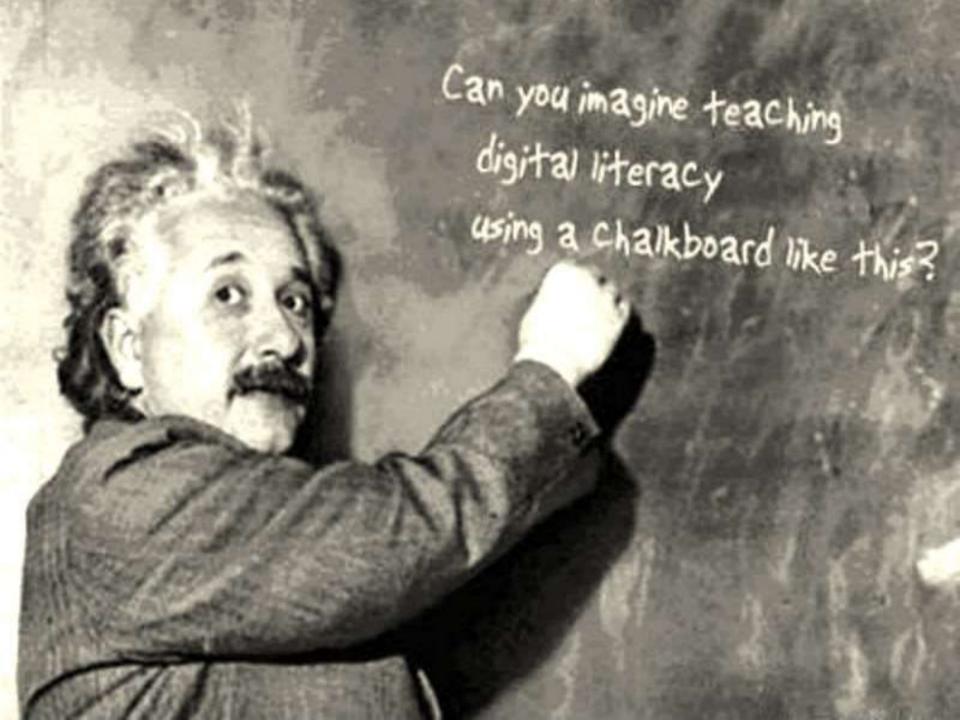
- Select
- Evaluate
- and Organize the found information

Digital literacy:

 Understand and use information in multiple formats from a range of sources via computers

Computer literacy:

 Ability to manipulate documents and data via software

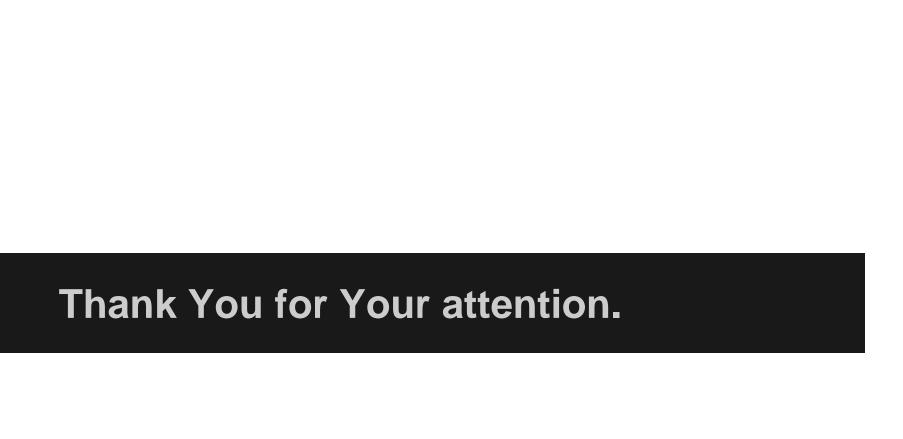


Future

- Information Society can't be "Information" without IT
- Countless and unpredictable changes of IT in last 10 years
- We can not predict what the future of technologies will be
- Develop the established definitions (to avoid "reinvent the wheel")

We said our WHY and now is the time to ask HOW...

DETERMINE OR UPDATE?



Used sources

- American Library Association. Presidential Committee on Information Literacy. Final Report. Chicago: American Library Association. (1989). Retrieved September 24, 2013, from http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/whitepapers/presidential.cfm
- Helvoort, J.v.: Impact of Recent Trends in Information and Communication Technology on the Validity of the Construct Information Literacy in Higher Education. Communications in Computer and Information Science 96, 61--73 (2010)
- Photo by fruity monkey (Flickr)