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How Smart Phones Have Remediated Computers

When many people hear of the term remediation they do not understand what is being discussed. Remediation is the representation of one medium in another medium, especially in media. People are always commenting on different types of media and saying things that could help to change it and make it better to the consumer. Others are reproducing media such as music, television shows, or videos that someone posted randomly to YouTube. In any case, when a piece of media is reproduced and improved then it replaces the old one, known as remediation. Smart phones are a huge new media product that has remediated computer interfaces and interactivity by the producers basically making them into mini computers that everyone can take with them anywhere and everywhere that they go. This allows people to have access to the internet, a camera, social network, music, or even games whenever they want or need it. According to [David Bolter](http://newmedia.wikia.com/wiki/J._David_Bolter?action=edit&redlink=1) and [Richard Grusin](http://newmedia.wikia.com/wiki/Richard_A._Grusin?action=edit&redlink=1), remediation is a defining characteristic of new digital media because digital media is constantly remediating its predecessors, such as television, radio, and newspapers.

A computer is automatic and interactive with the user. It allows the user to click on a link and decide where they would like to go on websites. A computer interface is a tool or concept that refers to a point of interaction between components and interactivity is allowing or relating to continuous two-way transfer of information between a user and the central point of a communication system ("Interface" and "Interactivity"). Computers allowed its interface to be interactive "in the sense that these layers of programming always return control to the user, who then initiates another automated action" (Bolter and Grusin 33). Computers have been remediated by smart phones to do these exact same things except they are smaller, portable, and can be done on the go. There are two types of interfaces that have been remediated from computers to smart phones, hardware and software interfaces. Hardware interfaces are in computing systems between many devises such as storage devices. Software interfaces provide memory and storage on computers or cell phones. Smart phones have been remediated to have interfaces such as Bluetooth's, this allows for interaction between the smart phone to a hands free device that allows a person to talk on the phone while driving, shopping, or even working out.

Smart phones not only have the basic calling and texting features but now have applications that can be downloaded at the consumers leisure. Companies such as banks, have made apps for their customers to download on their smart phones so that they can use them at home or where ever they may be. Social networks like Facebook and Twitter also have apps that can be downloaded on a smart phone for people to have access to. The same things that a computer could do with websites, smart phones have done with apps. It is kind of like taking a website and downsizing it into a smaller version. It allows changes to the production and consumption for and by consumers. It has changed new media in a way that fits the needs of media consumers. Instead of paying for a physical newspaper to be dropped every morning the newspapers decided to post their new stories on their website for everyone to read, but now you can download an app for a specific newspaper or magazine and read the news whenever it is convenient for the consumer. Bolter and Grusin discussed that electronic remediation's are offered mainly as improvements. They also stated that "A digital medium can try to refashion the older medium o media entirely, while still marking the presence of the older media and therefore maintaining a sense of multiplicity or hypermediacy" (Bolter and Grusin 46).

Smart phones have remediated computer interfaces and interactivity by making smart phones into a smaller, portable computer. The producers of smart phones took the ideas of a computer when it came to the internet and everything that the internet allowed the user to do, and separated all the features into different applications. It could be said that the smart phone has even been remediated by other smart phones. Android smart phones have different features then Apple iPhones and windows smart phones. However, it seems like the remediation is going in reverse because now it seems that computers are trying to have the same features as smart phones. An example of this would be Windows 8. There is both a smart phone with Windows 8 software and computers that have Windows 8 software as well. It also seems that Bolter and Grusin were correct in saying that "the new medium remains dependent on the older one in acknowledged or unacknowledged ways" (Pg47). Media will continue to be remediated in the future with more than just computers and smart phones. Who knows, one day something might remediate smart phones and we will be asking ourselves how that happened as well.

Bibliography

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