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### For creating a Better Society ~ an initiative by IIMC and YB\*

# Read ~ to inspire

31 March 2024

"Grown Up Digital: How the Net Generation is Changing Your World" is a book by Don Tapscott that explores the characteristics, behaviors, and impact of the generation that grew up in the digital age, often referred to as the Net Generation or Millennials. Tapscott delves into various aspects of this generation's life, including their use of technology, communication styles, work habits, social relationships, and expectations from institutions and society as a whole.

The book presents several key themes and takeaways:

**Digital Natives:** Tapscott coins the term "digital natives" to describe individuals who have grown up immersed in digital technology, contrasting them with older generations who are often considered "digital immigrants." He highlights how digital natives are fundamentally different in their approach to technology, communication, and information consumption.

Technology as a Tool: Rather than viewing technology as a mere form of entertainment or distraction, Tapscott emphasizes how digital natives perceive technology as an essential tool for learning, socializing, and navigating the world. He discusses how they seamlessly integrate technology into various aspects of their lives, from education and work to leisure and activism.



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Collaborative and Participatory Culture: The book explores how digital natives thrive in collaborative environments and value participatory culture. Tapscott discusses how they engage in online communities, share content, co-create knowledge, and collaborate on projects using digital platforms and social media.

Changing Work Dynamics: Tapscott examines how the values and expectations of digital natives are reshaping the workplace, including their preferences for flexible work arrangements, meaningful work, and a strong sense of purpose. He discusses how organizations need to adapt their structures, management styles, and practices to attract and retain talent from this generation.

Challenges and Opportunities: While acknowledging the unique strengths of digital natives, Tapscott also highlights some of the challenges they face, such as information overload, privacy concerns, and digital addiction. However, he emphasizes the opportunities for positive change that arise from their digital fluency, creativity, and global connectivity.

Overall, "Grown Up Digital" provides valuable insights into the mindset and behavior of the generation that has come of age in the digital era, offering readers a deeper understanding of how they are reshaping society and driving innovation across various domains.