

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article about British teenagers and their mobile phones and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

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|--------|--------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1..... | cruel | a. | to communicate with somebody |
| 2..... | a contract | b. | unkind, mean |
| 3..... | allowed to do something | c. | the ability to do something special or fun |
| 4..... | a privilege | d. | to punish somebody by taking away something that belongs to them |
| 5..... | to confiscate something | e. | able and permitted to do something |
| 6..... | to be in contact with somebody | f. | a short form of a long word or phrase |
| 7..... | disrupted | g. | an agreement between a buyer and a seller |
| 8..... | an abbreviation | h. | interrupted; stopped from going smoothly |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

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|----|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | British girls send more text messages than boys. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | Some parents think that mobile phones are dangerous. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Kiera takes away her daughters' phones if they behave badly. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | Mobile phones are not allowed at school in Britain. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | Tam is happy with her mobile phone. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | Some teachers use mobiles phones to help their students learn. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your understanding: gap fill

Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

soon	you	laugh	shoulder	friends	see	now	much
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1. LOL means '_____ out loud'.
2. POS means 'parent over _____'.
3. TYVM means 'Thank you very _____'.
4. BCNU means 'be seeing _____'.
5. ASAP means 'as _____ as possible'.
6. OIC means 'oh I _____'.
7. TTFN means 'ta ta for _____'.
8. BFFL means 'best _____ for life'.

3. Check your grammar: multiple choice – prepositions

Circle the best preposition to complete these sentences.

1. Many parents want their children to have a phone so that they can be **in / on / at** contact at any time.
2. **On / Of / To** the other hand, for lots of parents a phone is a source of possible danger.
3. Some young people use mobile phones to send offensive messages **at / on / to** each other.
4. Mobile phones are permitted **on / to / at** school in the UK.
5. School students can use their phones **of / at / on** break time.
6. Some teachers complain that lessons are disrupted by people looking **in / at / to** social networking sites.
7. They record the dialogue **at / on / in** the phone.
8. Then they listen **to / of / at** the recording.

Discussion

Some parents confiscate their teenager's phone as a punishment for poor behaviour. Is that a good idea? What's your opinion? Should mobile phones be allowed in schools?