

line, dial, conversation, department store, behind, mobile, email, neighbour, metre, text-messaging, behaviour, teenage, girl, computer, memories, teacher, similar, turn away, number, party, chat room, internet, celebration, polite, cord, conversation, interrupt, eavesdrop, couldn't help, avoid, option, school, in front of, conversation, listen, similar, old enough, important

4b.  Write down the story.

cord – cordless; wire – wireless

5. Work in groups of three. Ask and answer the questions.

1. Do you have a landline phone at home? 2. How often do you use it? 3. Is your landline phone cordless?

Lesson 7. Mobile phones – wolves in sheep's clothing?

1. Work in three groups: teenagers, parents, scientists. Prepare to speak about your attitude to mobile phones.

2a. Work in the same groups. Read your article, discuss the meaning of the words in bold. Prepare to retell the article to your classmates. What does your article tell you about: the advantages of the mobile phone or its disadvantages?

Article A

My teenage daughter got a new mobile and I'm totally confused. Emily's new phone plays music and videos. It has games and a navigation system. It connects to the Internet.

I cry out for olden times, when a phone to a teenager meant having his / her own extension in the bedroom. Now things are much more complex, and a parent can't even eavesdrop.

When mobile phones appeared, we thought they were just a passing **fad**. However, they have become more important to young people than school-work, following dress codes, and writing thank-you notes, all put together.

I was out-of-my-element as we entered the busy phone store. We approached the counter, and a shop-assistant interrupted her conversation on (what else?) a mobile.

“We just want a simple phone,” I stated.

The woman asked, “What do you mean?”

Emily elbowed me. “What she means is we want an LG Chocolate.”

“We simply want a basic phone with no bells and whistles, no downloads, no uploads, no extra minutes, no ring tones, no dial tones, no Sudoku, no nothing. Just simple. And cheap.”

My voice had got loud, and I found myself growing warm as people turned to look at me. Emily covered her face with her hands.

“I’m sorry,” I said, recovering myself. “Go ahead and give her the Large Chocolate, and throw in a hamburger, please.”

I left the store nostalgic for the time when you could pick up a black receiver and an operator said, “Number please.” Then you recited three numbers and a letter, and the call went through. And if you had a party line, you could listen to other parties talk.

Why on earth must we improve on what is already perfect?

By Karen Williams

Article B

Hold on while I just download some games for my mobile phone!

Na, seriously, I am a teenager and we have a **right** to mobile phones. We are the future of this world and mobile phones are the future of technology.

All the old people reading this, just think back to when you were in high school. I’m



sure you had some trendy thing that older people disagreed with. Maybe it was a yo-yo or some weird thing you old people play with. Did you want to keep it or throw it away?

Phones are useful in more ways than you could even dream of, a lot more useful than your favourite yo-yo. Primarily they connect us to our friends that we can't always talk to. Secondly they have games – ENTERTAINMENT! It could just be better than your old yo-yo! They also play music. Amazing, isn't it!

That is the same with mobile phones: we love them even if older people disagree.

Power to the future!

P.S. LG Chocolate is a nice phone!

By Vincent Moore

Article C

The mobile phone has become the most important way of communication for teens and they often avoid contact with **peers** that don't have mobile phones. "Next time a teenager says, 'Mom, Dad, if I don't have a phone, I'm going to be a nobody,' they are being serious," said Robbie Blinkoff.

Blinkoff and his colleagues studied the behaviour of 144 mobile phone users between the ages of 16 and 40 from several countries and found that teenagers often saw little difference between meeting face to face and talking on the phone. They often saw groups of teenagers sitting together, talking with far-away friends on their mobiles rather than to each other.

Can we say that mobile phones are wolves in sheep's clothing?

40% of young adults use their mobile phones during more than four hours a day to talk or send text messages. If they miss a call or a message, it makes them feel "deeply upset and sad".

The main difference between this kind of addiction and alcoholism or drug-addiction is that mobile-addicts can be seriously affected psychologically but, as they don't show any physical symptoms, others don't see their problem. In fact, addiction to mobile phones is a part of a greater group – that of addiction to new technologies.

Mobile-addicts forget about important activities (studies), drift apart from friends and close family and think about the mobile phone constantly when they do not have it with them. There was once a teenager who had 14 mobile phones. She spent sleepless nights in the company of phantom chat partners and finally dropped out of school.

A huge number of teens use their mobile phones during school. The survey also revealed that on average, teens spend almost as much time on their mobile phones as they spend doing physical activity. One half of those surveyed said they would rather have their TV privileges cut down than their mobile phone use, while more than a quarter (27%) indicated they would prefer to have Web access limited rather than have their mobile phones taken away.

2b. Work in groups of three: one teenager, one parent and one scientist. Tell your stories to the group members. Who do you agree with?

3a. Choose the correct definition for each word in bold in the articles.

Fad	1) to gradually disappear; to lose colour or brightness, or to make something do this 2) something that someone likes or does for a short time, or that is fashionable for a short time
Peer	1) a person who has a high social position and a title, like baron, earl and duke 2) a person who is the same age or has the same social position or the same abilities as other people in a group
Right	1) the side of your body that has the hand that most people write with; opposite to left 2) the freedom and the advantages that everyone should be allowed to have

3b. Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

1. Do you think the mobile phone is just a fad? When do you think yo-yo was a fad? 2. Do most of your peers have mobile phones? 3. Do you think teenagers have a right to use any means of communication they like and as much as they like?

3c. Look through the articles. Find examples of complex sentences. Define their types.

4a. Make a survey on mobile phones. Take one question each and ask all your classmates. Make notes of their answers. Report the results of the survey to the class.

- Do you have a mobile phone? What can your mobile do?
- Do you prefer meeting people or talking to them on the phone?
- How much time a day do you use your mobile phone?
- What do you mostly use your mobile for: talking, texting, playing video games, other?
- Do you use your mobile during school?
- Do you think you have an addiction to mobile phones?
- Do you use your mobile at night?
- How much time do you spend a day doing physical activity?
- If you had to choose between the mobile phone and the TV, what would you choose?
- If you had to choose between the mobile phone and the Internet, what would you choose?

4b. Are any of the results surprising?

4c.  Write your own answers to the questions in ex. 4a.

Lesson 8. Future of communications

1. Read the predictions below and decide which of them was the most stupid.

“There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home.”

Ken Olson, president of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977.

“The phone has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication”

Western Union Statement in 1876