

LESSON I

Pre-lesson task, Student's worksheet

1. What can you do with a mobile phone? Individually, write down as many ideas as you can, then share with a partner, then share with the class
2. Read the article:

How do teenagers in the UK and the USA use their mobile phones?

More than ninety percent of British teenagers own a mobile phone; a minority have two or more. These *screenagers* spend more than twenty-seven hours a week online. They can now connect when and where they like with smartphones and tablets. Apparently, UK teenagers avoid using smartphones to chat with friends. Instead, they choose to watch video clips, play games, share photos and send instant messages. As for social media, teens like keeping in touch via Twitter, Snapchat or Instagram. They leave Facebook to their mums and dads!

Teenagers may be connected all the time, but there is one place where most teenagers can't use their digital devices: school! In the UK there is no law about phone use in schools, but teachers can remove devices from students if necessary. However, not all teachers agree and some even try to use smartphones in class.

A recent British report said that removing smartphones from schools will give students more time for their education. It said that smartphones are a big distraction, make students less productive and are bad for learning.

However, in the USA some people do not agree. Recently one school in New York decided to allow students to use smartphones at school. They said that smartphones can be an excellent resource for the classroom. We carry a lot of information in our pockets and this information can be really useful. In this New York school, smartphones can definitely make you smarter!

3. Give an example of a digital device in the text. What other digital devices do you know?
4. What social networks can you find in the text? Do you know any more?
5. Correct the sentences about the article
 - All UK teachers believe smartphones are bad for students.
 - A recent UK report said that using smartphones in school can be positive.
 - All schools in the USA and UK have similar ideas about smartphone use in schools.
6. What does smart mean? Do smartphones make you smarter? Brainstorm ideas as a class, try to get at least five reasons for and five against.