

DIRECTIONS: Read *Cell Phones in School* and answer the questions that follow.

Cell Phones in School

by Gwyneth Avery

Recently, over 500 high school students in Israel were surveyed about their cell phone use in class. Over 95% admitted that they used their phones during class to send text messages and log onto Facebook. Most of these students said that their teachers were unaware of the cell phone use. Using a cell phone in class is a problem, because if students are using a cell phone, then they are not paying attention. However, there are a couple of possible solutions to the problem of cell phone use in school.

One solution to this problem is to allow students to use cell phones for educational activities. Teachers can ask students to search for information on a specific topic. Or they can require students to take an online poll or survey. Teachers can even allow students to use an online notebook to keep track of homework assignments. By using the phones for specific reasons, students will be less likely to use it to text friends.

Another possible solution is to ban phones and have harsh punishments for students who use them during class. Students can be suspended for breaking the cell phone rules, or their phone could be confiscated. Any student found using a phone can then be required to deposit the phone in an office at the beginning of every day. They can only pick the phone up at the end of the day.



Although student cell phone use is a problem in many schools, there are solutions available. Teachers can allow students to use cell phones for educational activities. Or, strict punishments can be given if students are found using cell phones. Cell phones are not going to go away. Luckily, they don't have to be a problem in school.

Cell Phones in Schools by Gwyneth Avery

1. What is the **topic** of the essay?

2. What is the **main idea**?

3. What kind of **hook** did the writer use?

4. Locate the **thesis statement**.

5. How many **body paragraphs** are in this essay? _____

6. Why has the writer included this number of body paragraphs?

7. Which **organizational structure** has the writer used?

8. How can you prove the text is organized in this way?

9. What **type of information** is used to **develop** each body paragraph?

10. What is the purpose of the **concluding, or closing, paragraph**?

Problem & Solution Prompts

Name _____

What kind of cheating is a problem in school? What can be done about it?

Problem & Solution

What is internet bullying and what can be done to stop it?

Problem & Solution

A new student has moved into town and will be attending your school. What advice would you give him/her about making friends and getting to know the school?

Problem & Solution