UK Now: Mobile Phones

10 Tips for Learning Success

√ Engage in activities that develop thinking skills.

√ Demonstrate explicit, implicit and referential understanding of different types of text.

√ Express own ideas and talk about similarities and differences between UK culture and own culture.

√ Explore a variety of multimodal and authentic materials.

√ Work collaboratively.

√ Use ICT to create a webpage.

√ Develop understanding of real world issues such as cyber bullying.

√ Present work to the class.

√ Evaluate group work, identifying strengths and areas for improvement

√ Complete a self-reflection activity to evaluate learning in the unit.

Life in the UK: Mobile phones

Do you love your mobile phone? Could you live without it? Find out what British teenagers, parents and teachers say about the subject!

Here are some mobile phone facts:

- 66% of 12-15-year-olds in the UK have a smartphone.
- People in the UK send 50 text messages a week on average.
- British 12-15-year-olds send an average of 200 messages a week.
- British girls aged between 12 and 15 send more texts than boys of the same age group. Girls send 221 messages a week!

Parents

Parents want their children to be safe. Are teenagers safer with a mobile phone? Many parents want their children to have a phone so that they can contact them at any time or in any place. But for lots of parents a phone also means danger. Parents worry that their child could meet bad or strange 'friends' on social networking sites or that they could receive cruel messages from school bullies. Some parents have rules about how their child uses their mobile and the internet. Sometimes, if a child behaves badly, the parents confiscate the phone.

"It's great that I can keep in touch with my daughters easily. The worst thing about teenagers having phones is that some young people use them to send offensive messages to each other."
William, from Coventry.

"A teenager feels lost without a phone. If my daughters behave badly, I confiscate their phones and their behaviour quickly improves."
Kiera, mother of 15-year-old twins.

School

Students in the UK can have mobile phones at school but they cannot use them in class. Phones must be on silent during lessons. Some teachers in British are not happy that lessons are disrupted by people texting, making and receiving calls, looking at social networking sites, watching videos and even making videos in the class.

"My mum thinks I'm going to lose my phone or that someone is going to steal it. She won't buy me the really cool phone that I want. Everyone else has a smartphone and I don't."
Tam, 14, from Wrexham

I teach French and I think phones are useful in class. Students can write a dialogue in French and record it on a phone so we can listen to it later. It's great!

Stan, from Chester

Messaging

If you want to send messages in English you need to know some abbreviations. Here are some to get you started:

LOL   = laugh out loud
POS   = parent over shoulder
TYVM = thank you very much
BCNU = be seeing you (meaning 'goodbye')
ASAP = as soon as possible
OIC   = oh I see (means 'I understand')
BFFL = best friends for life

TYVM 4 reading this article. BCNU!

UK Now: Mobile phones - questions

Before you read

Do you have a mobile phone? What do you use it for?

Yes.	*I talk to* *my family* *my friends*
	I send *emails* *text messages* *Whatsapp messages*
	I go on
	the internet	*to help me with my homework.*
	Facebook	*to look at …*
	YouTube	*to read about …* *to watch videos.*
	I play games.
	I take photos.
No. I don't have one because …	

What are the good things and bad things about having a mobile phone?

It's good because …
But sometimes it's bad because…

Now read the text about mobile phones in the UK.

Explicit questions

1. Read the text and circle *True* or *False*.

a.	British girls send more text messages than boys.	*True*	*False*
b.	Some parents think that mobile phones are dangerous.	*True*	*False*
c.	Some parents confiscate phones if their children behave badly.	*True*	*False*
d.	Mobile phones are not allowed at school in Britain.	*True*	*False*
e.	All British children have smartphones.	*True*	*False*
f.	Some teachers like students using mobile phones in class.	*True*	*False*

Implicit questions

2. Choose the best option to summarise the article.

   a. *Most / All / Some* teenagers in Britain have mobile phones.

   b. Parents think phones are *fantastic / dangerous / a possible risk* for teenagers.

   c. Mobile phones are *welcome / a cause of conflict / banned* in UK schools.

Referential and evaluative questions

3. Now think about mobiles phones where you live compared to the UK. What differences and similarities can you find?

> *It's the same because …*
> *It's similar because …*
> *It's different because …*
> *In both countries … people / teenagers / children / teachers / parents …*
> *One difference is that in the UK … but here …*

4. What do you think? Talk to a partner.

a. *Teenagers **should / shouldn't** have mobile phones because …*

b. *Parents **should / shouldn't** worry about social networking sites because …*

c. *Parents **should / shouldn't** confiscate their children's phones because …*

d. *Students **should / shouldn't** use phones in lessons because …*

e. *Children under 10 years old **should / shouldn't** have mobile phones because …*

3A Revision

What ideas can you find in the text about mobile phones?

Good things about mobiles

(*Parents / Children / Teenagers / Teachers can …)*

………

………

………

………

………

………

………

………

……

……

……

Bad things about mobiles

(People / Children / Teenagers could …)

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

Can you think of two more ideas? Add them to the list.
3B

Extension: How to stop cyber bullying

Watch the video at <u>http://vimeo.com/18816031</u> and answer these questions.

1. What type of person is Joe?

2. What does Lamer Bill do to Joe?

3. How does Joe feel?

4. What does Joe do? Does he do the right thing? Why?

5. What are the possible consequences of cyber bullying?

Glossary

Cyber bullying = using the internet or mobile phones to intimidate or humiliate someone
lame = stupid or unoriginal
lamer = stupid or unoriginal person
nasty = cruel, horrible
a total reject = a person that nobody likes
worked up = stressed, angry and sad
dealing with something = taking action on something
skipping school = not going to school when you are supposed to

Transcript

Meet Joe. He's pretty popular with a lot of the crowds at school because he doesn't try to be too cool, and he's friendly to everyone. There's one dude though, who doesn't like Joe. He's actually jealous of Joe, and he'd like to scare that smile off Joe's face. His name is William, but everybody calls him Lamer Bill behind his back, because he's always doing the lamest things to people. Lamer Bill's latest lame idea is to go after Joe. He starts off by sending Joe a nasty email. In it, Lamer Bill calls Joe a total reject and says he's going to kick him in the teeth on the bus. Lamer Bill is a big, scary dude, and Joe's a little guy, so the email gets Joe pretty worked up. All day, he worries about the bus ride home. Lamer Bill is a bully, and because he threatens Joe over the internet, that makes him a cyber bully. Joe is so scared that he walks home from school that day. How do you think Joe should deal with Lamer Bill? Do you think Lamer Bill will stop? At home, Joe gets a whole bunch of texts from Lamer Bill. He threatens Joe again, saying he's going to follow Joe home from school tomorrow and issue a severe beatdown. Later, Joe sees Lamer Bill has posted an ugly rumour about Joe on a website a lot of people at school look at. All of this - the email, the text messages and the website posting is seriously scaring Joe. It's getting so serious that Joe is sick to his stomach. He's thinking of skipping school tomorrow. The worst part is that cyber bullying can

happen anywhere, even when Joe thinks he's safe at home. Dealing with cyber bullies takes a big bag of courage. Joe reaches into his and does the right thing. He saves the nasty email, the website posting, and the text messages, and shows them to his parents. His parents contact the school and give the principal all the evidence. Lamer Bill's parents, as well as the police, are notified. He's suspended from school for two weeks, and the next time it happens, Lamer Bill could end up in juvenile court or detention. That's how serious cyber bullying is. Cyber bullying is seriously bad news. If a cyber bully targets you, be courageous like Joe, and tell a parent or teacher about it. It's the best way to stay safe, and keep the lamers from taking over.

4. Project: Mobile phone etiquette

Work in a group of three. You are going to design a webpage showing mobile phone "Dos" and "Don'ts".

What advice can you give to young people about using mobile phones?

Mobile phone etiquette

Do … ✔️

Don't … ❌

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

………………………………………   …………………………………………

Now use a web 2.0 tool such as Glogster, Padlet or Popplet to create your webpage.

Present your webpage and your ideas to the class.

5. Evaluation

Webpage

Mark	Ideas	Design
5	• Four (or more) *Dos* and four (or more) *Don'ts*. • Your advice is useful for young people and easy to understand. • Your advice may be explained in a funny, interesting or original way. • Your advice will help young people with different mobile phone problems.	• The design creates a strong impact. • The design communicates the message extremely well. • The design is funny, interesting or original. • Excellent use of colour, pictures and/ or design.
4	• You have included three or four *Dos* and three or four *Don'ts*. • Your advice is useful for young people and easy to understand. • Your advice will help young people with some mobile phone problems.	• The design is attractive. • The design helps us to understand the ideas. • Colour and pictures make the webpage more attractive.
3	• You have some useful advice but we need to see more ideas. • Maybe some of the advice is not very important or useful for young people. • Your advice will help young people with one or two mobile phone problems.	• The design is OK but may be unfinished. • The design may be a little confusing. • A good start but the webpage needs more work.
2	• You have one or two ideas. • Maybe some of your ideas are not very useful or relevant to young people and mobile phones. • People may not understand all your ideas.	• The design is not finished. • The design may be confusing. • The webpage clearly needs more work.
0-1	Insufficient work completed.	Insufficient work completed.