

CELL PHONES THE NEWEST TEEN ADDICTION

A report in *The British Medical Journal* in November 2000 claims that cigarettes are being replaced by an equally addictive obsession – the mobile phone.

5 A rise in mobile phone use during the late 1990s coincided with a decline in smoking among 15-year-olds. The prevalence of smoking fell to 23% in 1999 from 30% in 1996. The same year mobile phone use increased among 15 to 17-year-olds. The authors believe that the fall in smoking and the rise in ownership of mobile phones among adolescents are related. They suggest that many teens cannot afford to sustain both habits and prefer sophisticated technology over smoking. They also note that the device is associated with many of the characteristics that attract teens to cigarettes:

- a sense of individuality and sociability
- a desire to rebel
- the need to be in touch with friends

15 The authors point out that the marketing of mobile phones, which is based on promoting self-image and identity, is similar to cigarette advertising and firmly conclude that as ownership increases, mobile phones will become essential for membership in groups that organise their social life by means of mobile phones.

20 Dr Mercola, author of the Total Health Programme, says that like most aspects of life it has its good and bad points. The good are obvious: teens are smoking less. The concern, however, is that extensive cell phone use is likely to be more dangerous for their health than smoking. We know the risks of smoking but no one has studied the long-term effects of cell phone radiation on one's brain.
25 Nevertheless, there is enough evidence to have great concern.

1.- Based on the ideas of the text, answer the following questions using your own words as far as possible. (25 words maximum each.) (2 points)

- a) – What makes many teenagers choose mobile phones rather than smoking?
- b) – In terms of health, why should we be worried about the use of mobile phones?

2.- Say whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE according to the text. Copy the evidence from the text. No marks will be given without the evidence. (1 point)

- a) – Selling strategies for tobacco and cell phones are very much alike.
- b) – British scientists suggest that the use of cell phones is addictive.

3.- Choose ONLY THREE of the following words and write a synonym (=), an opposite (≠), a definition or a sentence (only one of these four) to show that you understand their meaning in the text. Use your own words. (1.5 points)

- a) – rise (line 4)
- b) – desire (line 13)
- c) – to be in touch (line 14)
- d) – firmly (line 16)
- e) – by means of (line 18)
- f) – brain (line 24)

4.- Write down three grammatically correct and meaningful sentences by matching both columns. ONLY THREE of them are correct. (1.5 points)

New cell phones will carry labels describe	as much as 60 percent of the microwave radiation is absorbed by our brain.
Insofar as children are concerned,	their exposure to microwaves should be limited.
Concerns have been raised about	how many microwave radiation they emit.
Depending on how close the cell phone antenna is to our head,	whether cell phone use can be linked to the development of brain tumours.

5.- Write a composition of about 100 words on ONE of the following topics. (4 points)

- a) – Advantages and/or disadvantages of having a mobile phone.
- b) – Write a letter to a friend saying why he/she should stop smoking.

1.- Find and copy from the text the answer to the following questions.- (2 points)

- a) – What makes many teenagers choose mobile phones rather than smoking?
- b) – In terms of health, why should we be worried about the use of mobile phones?

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- a) – strongly
- b) – wish
- c) – to come in contact
- d) – to feel
- e) – without hesitation
- f) – softly
- g) – with the help of
- h) – ≠ fall
- i) – intellectual ability
- j) – controlling centre of the human nervous system

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Depending on how close the cell phone antenna is to our head,	whether cell phone use can be linked to the development of brain tumours.

5.- Choose ONE of the following options: (4 points)

a)- Write the following conversation in the correct order.- The underlined are the first and last bits.

Peter: Are you going shopping, Phil?

Peter: And would you mind posting some letters for me at the same time?

Peter: I'll give you some money for everything.

Peter: I'd like Colgate, if they've got it.

Peter: Oh, and I've run out of razor blades.

Peter: If you wouldn't mind. I haven't got any toothpaste left. Could you get me some?

Phil: Yes. Can I get something for you?

Phil: Not at all. I've got to buy some stamps.

Phil: OK.

Phil: OK, I'll get you a dozen.

Phil: Of course, they'll have it. It's a well known brand.

Phil: No, wait till I come back. It's simpler.

b)- Write a composition of about 100 words on ONE of the following topics.

a) - Advantages and/or disadvantages of having a mobile phone.

b) - Write a letter to a friend saying why he/she should stop smoking.

PLANTILLA DE CORRECCIÓN

1.- Based on the ideas of the text, answer the following questions using your own words as far as possible. (25 words maximum each.) (2 points)

- c) – What makes many teenagers choose mobile phones rather than smoking?
Because they haven't got enough money to pay for both.
Because they prefer to have a mobile phone rather than smoke.
- d) – In terms of health, why should we be worried about the use of mobile phones?
Because we don't know yet the risks of mobile phones.
Because nobody has studied the dangers of cell phone.

2.- Say whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE according to the text. Copy the evidence from the text. No marks will be given without the evidence. (1 point)

- a) – Selling strategies for tobacco and cell phones are very much alike.
TRUE: "... is based ... cigarette advertising." (lines 15-16)
- b) – British scientists suggest that the use of cell phones is addictive.
TRUE: "A report ...the mobile phone." (lines 1-3)

3.- Choose ONLY THREE of the following words and write a synonym (=), an opposite (≠), a definition or a sentence (only one of these four) to show that you understand their meaning in the text. Use your own words. (1.5 points)

- d) – rise: *increase, increment, growth, ≠ fall, drop.*
- e) – desire: *with, need, passion, obsession, urge, impulse.*
- f) – to be in touch: *communicate, to be in contact, to contact, to telephone, call.*
- d) – firmly: *strongly, solidly, absolutely, definitely.*
- e) – by means of: *using, through, with, make use of, with the help of.*
- f) – brain: *What we think with, organ inside our head, the controlling centre of human being.*

4.- Write down three grammatically correct and meaningful sentences by matching both columns. ONLY THREE of them are correct. (1.5 points)

Depending on how close the cell phone antenna is to our head,	as much as 60 percent of the microwave radiation is absorbed by our brain.
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