
Title

CELL PHONES IN SCHOOL

Hook

Who doesn't have a cell phone these days?

Background Information

The amazing thing about cell phones is that they are no longer just used for calling or texting. They have become an indispensable multi-tool wonder. Today's cell phone is cutting-edge technology at your fingertips. With this in

Topic

mind, should students be permitted to use cell phones in school? I believe they should not just

Opinion Statement

be permitted to use cell phones, they should be *required* to use them. Cell phones don't just

Three reasons that support the opinion.

allow students to stay in contact with other students, they are also an excellent learning resource, and they encourage the responsible use of technology.

Transition and

First Reason

To begin with, cell phones make it possible for students to stay in touch with family and

*Three elaborated details
that support the first
reason.*

friends. A student can call home and ask a family member to bring them a forgotten assignment or lunch money or to come pick them up if they are sick. Also, cell phones allow parents to keep track of their children's whereabouts before, during, and after school. And, of course, there's always the possibility of a student needing to contact a parent because of a dangerous situation. Thus, having a cell phone is like having a guardian angel. Students can also connect with friends, but not just because it's a fun thing to do; my teacher asks us to text or email our friends when they are absent to let them know what's going on in class and to inform them of any homework. When used responsibly, a cell phone can be an excellent school communication tool.

Summary Sentence

Transition and

Second Reason

*Three elaborated details
that support the second
reason.*

Summary Sentence

Transition and

Third Reason

Also, cell phones - especially smart phones - are a fabulous learning resource. Students can use tools such as the calculator, the map finder, and the calendar. I've used my cell phone in Math and Geography and to keep track of my homework. My science teacher lets us use our smart phones to do research when we are doing group work or working on a project. For example, when we were studying ecology we did research on local jobs having to do with protecting the environment. Plus there are lots of great learning websites - including essay-writing websites - we can use to supplement the learning in class. Cell phones are a quick and easy way to incorporate technology in the classroom.

Finally, cell phones encourage the

*Three elaborated details
that support the third
reason.*

responsible use of technology. Students can learn when and how to use their cell phones to enhance their learning. They can become more independent in their work and more motivated to learn. Students like being allowed to make choices, and they understand consequences. If a student is texting when he/she should be paying attention to the teacher, the teacher should take the cell phone temporarily away. No big deal. Before a test, all cell phones should be placed on the teacher's desk. Again, no big deal. By allowing the use of cell phones, students will feel like they are being treated like responsible young adults, and they will appreciate that. If teachers are patient, understanding, and consistent, students will surely become responsible users of technology.

Summary Sentence

*Transition and
Opposing Reason*

*Analysis that weakens
the opposing reason.*

Restatement of Opinion

Call to Action

In conclusion, people who oppose the use of cell phones in school do it because of the disruptions and distractions cell phones can cause. But we must accept that we live in a world of technology and that cell phones are an important and very useful part of that world. We miss out if we fail to take advantage of the educational power of the cell phone. All in all, cell phones improve communication, provide learning resources, and encourage appropriate use of technology. Teachers and administrators must find ways to incorporate this excellent multi-tool in our schools. As you've learned from this essay, it's really not that difficult. Let's make the most of the day and age we are living in!