

1 READING

- b** Read the posts about smartphones and tablets on the *Online Hotline*. What do they talk about?
- different things you can do with them
 - differences between them
 - different apps you can have on them
- c** Read the posts again. Find the person who:
- uses a tablet in their job
 - is happy they bought a tablet
 - takes their smartphone when they go out
 - uses their tablet in their free time.
- d** Which is better for Noelle, a smartphone or a tablet?

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Noelle, from Ireland, sent us this message:

Hi everyone. I'd like some advice. I already have a laptop and a phone, but they're both quite old now. I've got some extra money this month, so it's time for something new. I'd like to buy either a smartphone or a tablet. What's the difference? Is a tablet just bigger than a smartphone? Do they do the same things? I work in an office, but sometimes I have to travel around Ireland for my job. Thanks for your help!

We asked our website readers to help her decide!

Size is everything! Which is bigger?

Sabine Easy! A tablet is bigger than a phone.
Hussein Everyone thinks they know the answer here, but these days a lot of new smartphones aren't smaller than some of the mini tablets you see in shops. So maybe there's no difference!

Device	Percentage
Tablet	82%
Smartphone	18%

How about the price? Which is cheaper?

Susanna A tablet is more expensive than a smartphone. Well, my phone was free, in fact! But I have to pay quite a lot of money every month to the phone company.

Device	Percentage
Tablet	45%
Smartphone	55%

Can I carry it around easily? Which is lighter?

Sabine Of course a tablet is heavier than a phone, but that's because it's bigger. The only good thing about a phone is that I can put it in all my small handbags!
Hussein A smartphone is lighter than a tablet, so this means it's easy to take it with me when I go out with my friends.

Device	Percentage
Tablet	29%
Smartphone	71%

Tell me about the screen. Which is clearer?

Sabine Smartphone screens are too small. For me, the tablet screen is a lot clearer than the one on my phone. I like to download and watch films, so this is really important for me.
Susanna I'm a teacher so I use my tablet to read and work on documents. The screen on the tablet is bigger and better for my work than the phone's small one.

Device	Percentage
Tablet	91%
Smartphone	9%

Which is better?

Hussein I think a smartphone is better than a tablet. It's cheaper, it's smaller, so I can take it everywhere without any problems, and, importantly, you can make calls on a phone. I can't easily do that on a tablet.
Sabine The tablet's the clear winner. Yes, it's expensive, but I think it's worth it. Tablets are the future.
Susanna I can't choose – I like them both.