

Read the text about how mobile phones have changed our lives. Think of ONE word that fits into each blank.

Some time ago, if we wanted to call someone, we had to be at home to do so. There were public phones in the street, but it was often difficult to find **(1)** _____ that was working. Sometimes there were long queues before it was your turn to use them. In addition, you had to bring a lot of coins to **(2)** _____ for the calls. As a result, people didn't phone their friends as often **(3)** _____ they do today.



Today's mobile phones allow us to talk with friends and family **(4)** _____ we are on the move. They **(5)** _____ dramatically changed the life we lead. Before the age of the mobile phone, parents would sit around worried when their children would be coming home. There **(6)** _____ no quick calls to say that there would be more guests for dinner. We left notes on fridges or desks to communicate messages.

However, mobile phones have also had a negative **(7)** _____ on our lives. We often don't realize that we have lost something very valuable: our privacy. Today, our friends and family can get in **(8)** _____ with us wherever and whenever they want to. We can never get **(9)** _____ from them.

The way people communicate with **(10)** _____ other is completely different now. It's not so easy to sit in a café and have a casual conversation without **(11)** _____ interrupted by a phone call every few minutes. Most people don't see anything wrong in having a long conversation on their mobile phone while forgetting about the person they are sitting **(12)** _____ to.

A solution would be to leave our mobile phones at home or turn them **(13)** _____ completely. But nobody does that. Most people are **(14)** _____ of missing something important if they don't have their phones with them at all times.