A "For and Against" essay

1. Read the example of a "for and against" essay. Complete it with the missing words.

mental	*easy*	*both*	*benefits*	*although*	*everyday*	*than*	*matter*	*instance*	*divided*	*several*	*much*

Mobile phones have made our lives easier

A. In the last twenty years, mobile phones have become an **essential** part of [1]_____ life. Almost everyone owns a smartphone, and people use them for communication, work, education, and entertainment. Their importance in modern society is clear, but opinions about their impact are [2]_____ . Some people believe that mobile phones have greatly improved our lives, while others **argue** that they have created new problems. This essay will discuss [3]_____ the advantages and disadvantages of mobile phones.

B. On the one hand, mobile phones have made communication [4]_____ faster and more **convenient**. People can call or send messages **instantly**, no [5]_____ where they are. For example, families who live in different countries can stay in touch through video calls. In addition, mobile phones give us [6]_____ access to information. We can search the internet, read the news, or check directions within seconds. This is especially helpful for students and workers who need quick information for their tasks. As a result, mobile phones save time and make daily activities more **efficient**.

C. On the other hand, mobile phones also have [7]_____ disadvantages. One major problem is that they can **reduce** face-to-face communication. Many people spend more time looking at their screens [8]_____ talking to the people around them. This can **weaken** personal relationships. Another **drawback** is the risk of addiction. Some users spend hours on social media or playing games, which can affect their [9]_____ health and productivity. For [10]_____ , teenagers may **struggle** to focus on their studies because they are distracted by their phones.

D. In conclusion, mobile phones offer many [11]_____ , such as easy communication and quick access to information, but they also create social and psychological problems. In my opinion, [12]_____ there are some negative effects, mobile phones have made our lives easier overall. If people use them **responsibly**, the advantages are stronger than the disadvantages.

2. Define the underlined words from the essay. Use an online dictionary to help you if necessary.

1. _____: to make something smaller or less in amount, size, or number
2. _____: immediately; without any delay
3. _____: to give reasons for or against something; to express an opinion strongly
4. _____: a disadvantage or negative aspect of something
5. _____: easy to use or helpful because it saves time or effort
6. _____: to make something less strong or powerful
7. _____: working in a well-organized way without wasting time or energy
8. _____: extremely important or necessary
9. _____: in a sensible and careful way; in a way that shows good judgment
10. _____: to have difficulty doing something

3. For questions 1-10, choose an appropriate essay paragraph (A-D) which contains the following information.

Which paragraph...

1. discusses problems related to mental health and concentration? _____
2. presents the topic and explains that there are two different opinions? _____
3. talks about fast communication between people in different countries? _____
4. gives the writer's personal opinion? _____
5. explains that mobile phones help people find information quickly? _____
6. mentions that relationships can become weaker? _____
7. summarizes the main points of the essay? _____
8. states that mobile phones save time? _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS