

Teens and technology

Read a short text about "Mobile Phones". Read it carefully and complete it using the words in the box.



A mobile telephone or cellular telephone (commonly, (1) _____ or cell phone) is a long range, portable electronic (2) _____ used for mobile communication. In addition to the standard voice function of a telephone, current mobile phones can provide many additional (3) _____ such as SMS for text (4) _____, e-mail, packet switching for access to the Internet and MMS for (5) _____ and receiving photos and (6) _____.

A mobile phone is more than just a phone for most teenagers: it's also an (7) _____ and a camera. Text messaging is (8) _____ and more private so they use it a lot more than phoning.

MP3 player

sending

device

services

cheaper

messaging

videos

mobile phone



Text A. Generation M

Lisa is in her room doing her homework. However, homework is just one of the things she's doing while her eyes are fixed on the computer screen. As well as studying for her Biology exam, Lisa is also listening to music, chatting with her best friend online, downloading songs and occasionally texting people on her mobile phone. "My parents keep telling me off for multi-tasking while studying but they don't understand that it helps me concentrate," she says.



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Young people today spend about six hours a day using various types of media, and doing different things at the same time. This is the reason why they are called the Generation M. But when it comes to learning new information, multi-tasking has a bad impact according to researchers. Dividing your attention between many activities makes the knowledge you gain harder to use later. We are not saying you shouldn't multi-task, just don't multi-task while you are trying to learn something new. According to specialists, it is also essential to take time away from electronic media. Generation M should take time to relax and reflect. There's a life beyond the screen and the pleasure of face-to-face communication cannot be replaced.

Read the statements and decide if they are true or false

1. Lisa's parents believe that Lisa doesn't take her studies very seriously.
2. The phrase "Generation M" means teenagers are good at doing only one task at time given.
3. Learning is made easier when you concentrate on one thing at a time.
4. Specialists believe students need to spend more time using electronic media.

Answer the following questions about you:

1. How important is technology for you?
2. Which technological device is essential in your life?

Text B. Log on and learn



No more teachers? No more books? For today's kids, the Internet has all the answers.

Gadgets come and go and most of them don't have a very long life. The Internet, however, seems to be here to stay. The World Wide Web is now the largest information resource in the world and teenagers can find more or less anything they want there. They can download music and films, watch TV, listen to the radio, send e-mails and even shop online

In the United States for example, more than 78% of kids go online, according to a recent study. A lot of them are just surfing the Web and instant messaging their friends. But 94% of those online said they also used it for schoolwork. This technology has allowed them to access a vast store of knowledge which was inaccessible before. With online tutoring and virtual schools, technology allows students to get specific help. It is also possible to be a part of a study group or discuss school projects with international e-mail pals. Perhaps more than anything, the Internet search engine Google has changed homework habits across the globe. But the problem is that it is so easy to "copy and paste" that teachers need to change homework assignments or projects every year...

E-learning, which simply means learning online is now becoming one of the most popular uses of the Internet. You can choose your own timetable and you can work at your own pace. This means fewer people will give up their studies because they can't combine studies and work.

Answer the following questions in your own words.

1. Does the author think the Internet will be around for long?
2. How can the Internet help students in their schoolwork?
3. What is the negative aspect of the Internet, according to the text?
4. Why is E-learning becoming popular?