



**O'level**

**Foundation**

**Week 1**

**The Write Tribe**

**DISCURSIVE WRITING:**



**INTRODUCTION**  
(Write about the  
Current situation)

**MOBILE PHONES: Should they be banned in public places?**

Society has mixed feelings about the use of mobile phones in public places like restaurants and cinemas.

**Whereas/However** they were almost unknown twenty years ago, these days they are part of everyone's life, and the world would now feel a strange place without them.

**Arguments  
for**

One of the strongest arguments in favour of banning mobile phones is the annoyance they cause other people.

**Although/Despite** audiences are always asked to turn off their mobiles when they go to the cinema, you can be sure that the film you are watching will be interrupted by the sound of at least five ringing tones! **Therefore/What is more** many people insist on continuing their conversation, **in spite of/even though** hundreds of people can hear them! **For this reason/Besides** many people would welcome a ban on mobile phones in places where they might irritate others.

**Arguments  
against**

**On the other hand/Although** there are a number of arguments against such a ban. It is really difficult to stop users bringing their mobile phones into public places, and **however/therefore** it would be virtually impossible to enforce any ban. Some would see this as an infringement of their rights, **even though/while** other people would say they need them in case of an emergency. And **despite/besides** being asked to turn their mobile phones off, some people insist on leaving them on, or simply forget to silence them. Perhaps the most important point is that, **although/in spite of** all the disadvantages, many people these days simply feel that they are not able of living without their mobile.

**Conclusion**

**It seems to me that** a ban on mobile phones would be pointless. A way round any ban will always be found. **Nevertheless/Although** their use should be discouraged in places like restaurants, unless it is absolutely necessary. People should be made aware that it is very bad manners to use them at certain times. **However/Furthermore**, there will always be someone who thinks their call is much more important than other people's peace and quiet!

**Useful language to express personal  
opinions:**

*In my opinion/view*

*It is my opinion/view that...*

*I would say that...*

*I (strongly) believe that...*

*It is my (firm) belief that...*

*It is a commonly held view that...*

*It seems to me that...*

Based on Cutting-Edge UpperIntermediate by Cunningham and Moor



## Useful transitional words and phrases

|                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. To signal <u>addition</u> of ideas                                         | and, also, besides, further, furthermore, too, moreover, in addition, then, of equal importance, equally important, another                                                                                                                                       |
| 2. To signal <u>time</u>                                                      | next, afterward, finally, later, last, lastly, at last, now, subsequently, then, when, soon, thereafter, after a short time, the next week (month, day, etc.), a minute later, in the meantime, meanwhile, on the following day, at length, ultimately, presently |
| 3. To signal <u>order</u> or <u>sequence</u>                                  | first, second, (etc.), finally, hence, next, then, from here on, to begin with, last of all, after, before, as soon as, in the end, gradually                                                                                                                     |
| 4. To signify <u>space</u> and <u>place</u>                                   | above, behind, below, beyond, here, there, to the right (left), nearby, opposite, on the other side, in the background, directly ahead, along the wall, as you turn right, at the tip, across the hall, at this point, adjacent to                                |
| 5. To signal an <u>example</u>                                                | for example, to illustrate, for instance, to be specific, such as, moreover, furthermore, just as important, similarly, in the same way                                                                                                                           |
| 6. To show <u>results</u>                                                     | as a result, hence, so, accordingly, as a consequence, consequently, thus, since, therefore, for this reason, because of this                                                                                                                                     |
| 7. To signal <u>purpose</u>                                                   | to this end, for this purpose, with this in mind, for this reason, for these reasons                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 8. To signal <u>comparisons</u>                                               | like, in the same (like) manner or way, similarly                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 9. To indicate <u>contrast</u>                                                | but, in contrast, conversely, however, still, nevertheless, nonetheless, yet, and yet, on the other hand, of course, on the contrary, or, in spite of this, actually, a year ago, now, notwithstanding, for all that, strangely enough, ironically                |
| 10. To signal <u>alternatives</u> , <u>exceptions</u> , and <u>objections</u> | although, though, while, despite, to be sure, it is true, true, I grant, granted, I admit, admittedly, doubtless, I concede, regardless                                                                                                                           |
| 11. To <u>dispute</u>                                                         | it isn't true that, people are wrong who say that, deny that, be that as it may, by the same token, no doubt, we often hear it said, many people claim, many people suppose, it used to be thought, in any case                                                   |
| 12. To <u>intensify</u>                                                       | above all, first and foremost, importantly, again, to be sure, indeed, in fact, as a matter of fact, as I have said, as has been noted                                                                                                                            |
| 13. To <u>summarize</u> or <u>repeat</u>                                      | in summary, to sum up, to repeat, briefly, in short, finally, on the whole, therefore, as I have said, in conclusion, as you can see                                                                                                                              |

**QN: Should teenagers be allowed to use social media such as snapchat, TikTok, instagram etc?**

Write in your own words



