

The phone call that changed our world forever!

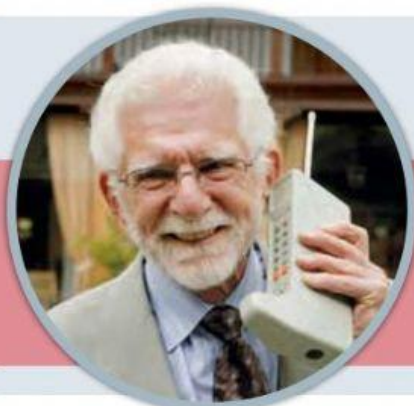
3rd April, 1973 was a cool spring day in New York City. People were walking in the street when they saw a man with a large object in his hands. He was holding it next to his ear and he was talking. But there was no one with him! Who was the man and who was he talking to?

The man was Martin Cooper and he worked for Motorola. He was talking to Joel S. Engel, who worked for a rival company. Engel was sitting at his desk when his phone rang. 'Joel, this is Marty,' said Martin. 'I'm calling you from a cell phone, a real hand-held portable cell phone*.' This was the first ever public mobile phone call.

The mobile phone Martin Cooper used was very different from smartphones today: It weighed 1.1 kg and it was 23 cm long. It only made phone calls. The battery lasted only twenty minutes.

Today, most smartphones weigh 100–200 grams. They have a touch screen, they can connect to Wi-Fi, you can talk for hours and charge them with a portable charger. There are apps for everything you want to do. You can even choose a different ringtone for each of your friends and family!

*cell phone (American English) = mobile phone (British English)



- 4 **2.36** Listen and repeat. Find these words in the text. Can you guess their meaning?

Vocabulary Smartphones

app battery portable charger
ringtone touch screen Wi-Fi

- 5 Complete the sentences with the words in the Vocabulary box.

- I downloaded a useful app. Now I can add stickers to my photos.
- Is there _____ in this place? I want to connect to the Internet.
- Oh, no! My phone _____ is only 5%!
- This song is very popular. Many people have it as a _____ on their phone!
- He uses his phone all the time so he always carries a _____ charger with him.
- The _____ of my phone is broken. Can you fix it for me?

- 1 **I know that!** Say what you can do with a smartphone that you can't do with a simple mobile phone. Use the verbs in the box and your own ideas.

chat download listen play surf take watch

I can chat online with my friends.

- 2 **Exam Spot** **2.35** Read and listen to the text. Choose the best title.

- The history of the telephone
- The first phone call from a smartphone
- The first public mobile phone call

- 3 Read the text again. Answer the questions.

- Did the people in the street know what the man was holding next to his ear?
- Where was Joel Engel when his phone rang?
- Did Joel Engel and Martin Cooper work for the same company?
- Was Martin's mobile phone heavier or lighter than a modern smartphone?
- Did Martin's phone take photos?



- 6 Work in groups. Play a speed game. Who is the fastest to:

- name four things that run on batteries?
- say four different things you can do with a phone app?
- sing four different ringtones from your friends' and family mobiles?