

**READING COMPREHENSION**

**Read the article and choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.**

**1 What does the writer say about smartphones in paragraph 2?**

- A The invention of the telephone was more important.
- B They only have a limited number of features.
- C They have had an important effect on our lives.
- D They aren't suitable for long distance phone calls.

**2 According to the writer, how have smartphones affected our relationships?**

- A They have helped us become more communicative.
- B They have made it more difficult to communicate well.
- C They have allowed us to spend more time with our families.
- D They have stopped us making new friends.

**3 What disadvantage of smartphones does the writer discuss in paragraph 3?**

- A We are not as efficient at work as we used to be.
- B We find it harder to forget about our jobs at the end of the day.
- C We spend more time chatting to friends than working.
- D We no longer like to discuss our personal relationships.

**4 The writer talks about an earthquake in the fifth paragraph to show that**

- A it can take a long time for us to get the latest news.
- B we can't trust any of the social networks.
- C reporters aren't interested in those types of stories.
- D we should be careful about the news we read.

**5 What is the writer's overall message about smartphones?**

- A We should be concerned about the negative effects on our lives.
- B We must do everything we can to stop people using them.
- C We ought to prohibit people from using them on public transport.
- D We should be pleased that people are using them less than in the past.

## HAVE SMARTPHONES CHANGED OUR LIVES FOR THE BETTER?

1

It's hard to believe that smartphones have only been around for little over a decade. They're now so common that it's surprising if someone doesn't have one. As I sit on the underground in the mornings, all I see are tired-looking travellers staring at their smartphones. When I step off the underground, others are navigating the platform, eyes still fixed on their screens. Most of them will spend the rest of their day checking their messages and the latest news updates or keeping up on celebrity gossip.

2

There's no doubt that the smartphone has changed our lives significantly. For most of the twentieth century, the telephone changed little. It only allowed us to talk to people over long distances and, later, send text messages to them. The smartphone, however, changed all of that by adding features such as cameras, GPS and sophisticated computer technology. They are multi-purpose tools, whose uses are only limited by the imaginations of computer programmers. If you're lost, your phone will help you find your way. If you're feeling lonely, it will help you find the perfect friend. You can even do your shopping on it, without leaving the comfort of your kitchen. The problem is that we've become so dependent on this technology that we've failed to notice the dangers.

3

What worries me most is that we are now more interested in our smartphones than in the people around us. How many of us check our phones before we've even said 'good morning' to our families? How many of us are checking our friends' online profiles when we could be talking to them? Instead of actually talking to people, we send them three-word messages or emojis. One advantage of the telephone was that it helped us become more communicative. Smartphones, on the other hand, have limited the way we communicate with others.

4

What about work? Surely, smartphones have made us more efficient in our jobs? After all, we can send and receive emails at any time, organise our schedules and make sure we don't miss an important call. That's great for our companies, but not so great for us or our families. In the past, when we finished work, we would go home and forget about it. Nowadays, smartphones mean many people take their work home with them so there is less time to relax. Apart from making you more tired, this can have a negative effect on your personal relationships, with more arguments and misunderstandings.

5

But smartphones are fantastic for knowing what's going on in the world, right? Well, that's true to a certain extent. In the past, we used to rely on papers or television and radio for our news. Sometimes, you had to wait for a whole day before hearing the latest updates. However, the online newspapers and social networks which we use nowadays are constantly updated. If there's an earthquake on an island on the other side of the world, we know about it in minutes. But can we really trust the social networks for our news? Were the reporters on the island when the earthquake happened? Or were they just repeating a story that they'd seen on another social network?

6

I'm not trying to say that the smartphone was a bad invention. I couldn't imagine not being able to search for a recipe or share my photos with my family and friends. However, I strongly believe that we need to understand the risks related to their use. We should ask ourselves whether working longer hours or having fewer 'real' conversations is a good thing. If we disagree, then we must think carefully about the way we use our smartphones.

**TENSES – PUT THE VERBS IN BRACKETS IN THE CORRECT TENSE:**

1. Look at that page. I'm sure that the printer \_\_\_\_\_ ink soon. (run out of)

2 I'd rather \_\_\_\_\_ ( stay) at home today because I'm not feeling too well

3 How long..... (you / learn) to play the piano? ..... (you / win) any competitions yet?

4 When I wanted to buy a ticket to the match I realised that ..... (I / leave / my wallet) at home.

5 At 8 o'clock tomorrow people ..... (wait) for the bakery to open. They ..... (sell) all the best cakes by midday.

6 I don't know what the book is like. I (just- buy) \_\_\_\_\_ it.

7 We \_\_\_\_\_ (be) here since 2 p.m. Let's go home.

8 Jack \_\_\_\_\_ ( wait) for a long time to see this film.

9 Our team ..... (collect) around 16 prizes and we hope to win more in the future.

10 It was great to see Liam because I ..... (not see) him for months.

11 I \_\_\_\_\_ ( text) my friend yet. I \_\_\_\_\_ ( do ) it in a sec.

12 Watch that saucepan! It \_\_\_\_\_ over in a minute. (boil)

13 I wish she \_\_\_\_\_ (speak) so fast. I can't understand her.

14 Why didn't you answer your phone last night? ..... (you / sleep)?

15 We \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) for over an hour when the bus finally arrived.

16 Keila didn't recognise her new teacher because ..... (she / not / see) her before.

17 I know you've been planning this for ages, so what \_\_\_\_\_ to the party? (you-wear)

**PASSIVE VOICE AND TENSES – CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION:**

1 Over 50 people .....(invite) to the party last night.

A- Was invited

C- Had invited

B- Were invite

D- Were invited

2 When I arrived at the meeting, the new advert .....(discuss). When it's ready, it .....(will / print) in sports magazines.

A- Was been discussed

A- Will print

B- Was being discussed

B- Will be print

C- Was discussed

C- Will be printed

D- Was be discussed

D- Will been printed

3 If you .....(catch) without a ticket, you will have to pay a fine.

A- Catch

C- Will be caught

B- Are catched

D- Are caught

4 Is the newspaper ready or .....(it / print) right now?

A- Is it be printed

C- It is been printed

B- Is it being printed

D- It is printed

5 They lived in a hotel while their house .....(repair) after the flood.

A- Is being repaired

C- Was being repaired

B- Is repaired

D- Was repaired

6 They couldn't believe it when they saw that the thief .....(catch) by a member of the public.

A- Was caught

C- Had been caught

B- Was being catched

D- Had be catched

7 I cannot find my favourite pen! It .....( take).

A- Was taken

C- Was being taken

B- Has been taken

D- Has being taken

8 That advert is on the side of fifty buses. It .....(read) by lots of people right now. It .....(see) by hundreds of people every week.

A- is being read

C- is being readed

B- is been readed

D- is read

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence using the word given. Do not change the word given. Use between two and five words.

(THE GRAMMAR TOPICS OF THIS EXERCISE ARE: MODAL VERBS, HAVE STH. DONE and WISHES)

1-I'm sure the price of the ticket is correct – I've checked it three times. BE

The price of the ticket \_\_\_\_\_ – I've checked it three times.

2-I'm sure that isn't John's sister – she's in Australia. BE

That \_\_\_\_\_ John's sister – she's in Australia.

3-It's possible that Dania is at home now. BE

Dania \_\_\_\_\_ at home now.

4- It was a mistake to tell Lia about our plan. SHOULD

We \_\_\_\_\_ Lia about our plan.

5- It wasn't necessary for Jim to accept the offer. HAVE

Jim \_\_\_\_\_ the offer.

6- I asked someone to mend my watch. GOT

I \_\_\_\_\_

7-Every few years the same artist paints a portrait for the king. PAINTED

Every few years the king \_\_\_\_\_ . He usually uses the same artist

8-The hairdresser is cutting Jo's hair at the moment. CUT

Jo \_\_\_\_\_ at the moment.

9- I'll ask someone to clean the windows. GET

I \_\_\_\_\_ cleaned.

10-We regret not having installed an alarm system. WISH

We ..... an alarm system.

11-I didn't lose weight so these jeans still don't fit. ONLY

If ..... so that these jeans would fit!

12. I can't stand Ronnie complaining about everything. WISH

I ..... complain about everything.

**CONDITIONAL SENTENCES- Drag and drop:**

Choose the correct word to complete these conditions- THERE ARE EXTRA WORDS WHICH YOU DO NOT NEED TO USE

HAD HAD      HAD      WOULD GO      WOULD HAVE GONE      WILL YOU DO      WOULD YOU DO  
WERE      WOULD BE      BECOME      WILL BECOME      BECOMES      WOULD HAVE EARN  
WOULD EARN      WILL EARN      HADN'T GONE      DIDN'T GO      GO      WOULD BE  
WOULD HAVE GONE      GOES      WILL BE

1. If I ..... (have) time, I ..... (go) shopping with you yesterday
- 2) What ..... (do) if you ..... (be) me?
- 3) He's studying medicine. If..... a doctor, ..... a lot of money. (become, earn)
- 4) He loves being a teacher, but if he ..... a doctor, he..... more money. (be- earn)
- 5) Last night I went to a party, and I didn't get to bed until 3am. If I ..... to the party,  
I..... to bed earlier. (go-go)
- 6) She's really tired. If she ..... out tonight, she..... so tired tomorrow. (go- be)

**WORD FORMATION**

Use the word given in capitals at the end of some lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.

**The Pink Fairy Armadillo**

This (1) ..... little creature is found in the grasslands of central Argentina. It is **MYSTERY**  
the (2) ..... member of the armadillo family, measuring around ten centimetres **SMALL**  
in length. People think that it is cute due to its furry body, flexible pink shell, or covering,  
and big feet.

Unfortunately, very little is known about these armadillos and over the years there have been  
few(3) ..... studies of their behaviour. They are very hard to spot because **SCIENCE**  
they are nocturnal animals, which means they are most (4) ..... at night. Not **ACT**  
only that, but they also spend most of their time underground, living in tunnels which  
they've dug with their impressively big feet.

It is a very (5) ..... creature, which can only survive in certain places. It needs **SENSE**  
desert-like conditions where it can dig into the sand and it must be able to keep warm. For  
that reason, it won't survive for long if it is taken from its (6) ..... habitat. **NATURE**  
Although it is believed that one armadillo may have lived for four years as a pet, most will  
only survive for a few days. (7) ..... , some will not even survive being **FORTUNE**  
transported from the wild.