

22. Mobile phones

Years
5-6

Derek Stuart explains why he wishes mobile phones hadn't been invented!

Mobile phones are a nuisance and a danger. I seriously wish they had never been invented. You can't go anywhere without having to listen to someone blathering on about where they are and what they are doing. If I had my way, I'd ban the use of mobile phones on trains and other forms of public transport.

I'd ban them in restaurants too. You go out for a meal with your family and friends and your conversation is constantly being interrupted by irritating ringtones and people talking loudly on their mobiles. I also find it infuriating when people reply to text messages while at the dining table.



Even more infuriating is going to the cinema or theatre and someone's mobile starts ringing.

People say that mobiles enable people to feel safer. They enable parents to know where their children are.

You can no longer walk down the street without the risk of someone barging into you because they are talking on their mobile and not looking where they are going.

Mobile phones are dangerous too. You see people driving while talking or texting. It's as dangerous as drink-driving.

But are they really safe? No one knows for sure what the long term effects of using mobiles are. They may seriously damage your health. We lived happily enough without them. I wish mobiles had never been invented.

In groups

- Discuss each of the reasons Derek Stuart gives for saying why he wishes mobile phones had never been invented. Explain why you agree or disagree with his views.
- Discuss what you consider to be the benefits of having mobile phones. What would life be like without mobile phones?