

Students Owning Cell Phones

Instructions: Read both texts and then answer the following prompt. Do you think students should be allowed to bring cell phones to school? Why or why not? Consider both the benefits and disadvantages of owning a cell phone that you read about in the two essays when forming your opinion.

Text 1: Benefits and Advantages of Students Owning Cell Phones

Cell phones are widely used by students and they offer several benefits and advantages. One of the main benefits of students owning cell phones is that it allows them to stay in touch with their parents and guardians. They can call or text their parents when they need to get picked up from school or when they have an emergency. This makes it easier for parents to keep track of their children's safety and well-being.

Another advantage of cell phones is that they can help students stay organized. Students can use their phones to set reminders, make to-do lists, and access educational apps that can help them study and learn new things. This makes it easier for them to manage their time and be productive.

Cell phones can also be a source of entertainment for students during their free time. They can play games, listen to music, and watch videos on their phones. This can help them relax and de-stress, which is important for their mental health.

In addition, cell phones can be useful in emergency situations. If a student is lost or in danger, they can use their phone to call for help. This can be a lifesaving feature in certain situations.

Overall, the benefits and advantages of students owning cell phones are numerous. They offer convenience, safety, entertainment, and organizational benefits that can enhance their daily lives.

Text 2: Disadvantages and Negative Effects of Students Owning Cell Phones

While there are many benefits to students owning cell phones, there are also several disadvantages and negative effects that should be considered. One of the main negative effects is that cell phones can be a distraction during class. If students are constantly checking their phones or texting during class, they may miss important information or not perform as well as they could.

Another negative effect is the potential for cyberbullying. If students use their phones to send hurtful messages or post negative comments online, it can cause emotional harm to their peers. This can be especially damaging for students who are already struggling with self-esteem or social issues.

In addition, cell phones can be expensive to own and maintain. This can be a financial burden for some families, especially those who are struggling to make ends meet.

Lastly, cell phones can be addictive and can lead to excessive screen time. If students spend too much time on their phones, they may miss out on other important activities, such as physical exercise, spending time with friends and family, or engaging in hobbies.

Overall, while there are benefits to owning cell phones, there are also several negative effects that should be taken into consideration. It is important for parents and teachers to set guidelines and rules around cell phone use to ensure that students are using their phones in a responsible and healthy way.