

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article about British teenagers and their mobile phones and do the exercises to check your understanding.

### Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

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|--|---|
| 1..... <sup>b</sup> cruel                          | a. to communicate with somebody                                     |
| 2..... <sup>g</sup> a contract                     | b. unkind, mean   |
| 3..... <sup>e</sup> allowed to do something        | c. the ability to do something special or fun                       |
| 4..... <sup>c</sup> a privilege                    | d. to punish somebody by taking away something that belongs to them |
| 5..... <sup>d</sup> to confiscate something        | e. able and permitted to do something                               |
| 6..... <sup>a</sup> to be in contact with somebody | f. a short form of a long word or phrase                            |
| 7..... <sup>h</sup> disrupted                      | g. an agreement between a buyer and a seller                        |
| 8..... <sup>f</sup> an abbreviation                | h. interrupted; stopped from going smoothly                         |

### 1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- |   |             |              |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1. British girls send more text messages than boys.               | <u>True</u> | False        |
| 2. Some parents think that mobile phones are dangerous.           | <u>True</u> | False        |
| 3. Kiera takes away her daughters' phones if they behave badly.   | <u>True</u> | False        |
| 4. Mobile phones are not allowed at school in Britain.            | True        | <u>False</u> |
| 5. Tam is happy with her mobile phone.                            | True        | <u>False</u> |
| 6. Some teachers use mobiles phones to help their students learn. | <u>True</u> | False        |

## 2. Check your understanding: gap fill

Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

soon	you	laugh	shoulder	friends	see	now	much
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1. LOL means '\_\_\_\_ **laugh** \_\_\_\_ out loud'.
2. POS means 'parent over \_\_\_\_ **shoulder** \_\_\_\_\_'.
3. TYVM means 'Thank you very \_\_\_\_ **much** \_\_\_\_\_'.
4. BCNU means 'be seeing \_\_\_\_ **you** \_\_\_\_\_'.
5. ASAP means 'as \_\_\_\_ **soon** \_\_\_\_ as possible'.
6. OIC means 'oh I \_\_\_\_ **see** \_\_\_\_\_'.
7. TTFN means 'ta ta for \_\_\_\_ **now** \_\_\_\_\_'.
8. BFFL means 'best \_\_\_\_ **friends** \_\_\_\_ for life'.

## 3. Check your grammar: multiple choice – prepositions

Circle the best preposition to complete these sentences.

1. Many parents want their children to have a phone so that they can be **in** / on / at contact at any time.
2. **On** / Of / To the other hand, for lots of parents a phone is a source of possible danger.
3. Some young people use mobile phones to send offensive messages **at** / on / to each other.
4. Mobile phones are permitted **on** / to / at school in the UK.
5. School students can use their phones **of** / at / on break time.
6. Some teachers complain that lessons are disrupted by people looking **in** / at / to social networking sites.
7. They record the dialogue **at** / on / in the phone.
8. Then they listen **to** / of / at the recording.

### Discussion

Some parents confiscate their teenager's phone as a punishment for poor behaviour. Is that a good idea? What's your opinion? Should mobile phones be allowed in schools?