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Observations1

Each of the articles brought up the point that enforcing bans on technology only creates a rigid learning environment for the student. Letting the student decide how they implement their cellphones and laptops creates a sense of independence and cooperation in the classroom. All three articles agreed that the rules should not change simply because technology changes.

The next point brought up among all three articles was that students can use technology for good or bad. The students can either use their cellphones to improve their learning environment, or they can distract and even harm the people around them. “When you injure yourself, that is unfortunate; when you injure someone else, you are unethical,” summed up the point that texting can be rude in certain situations, and deleterious in others.

The article “When Texting is Wrong” brought up the point that texting can be a mere annoyance or benign in one situation and toxic in another. In one situation, texting can interrupt an intimate moment with another person that can no longer be resumed, yet in another, it could cost someone’s concentration in class or life. It is the responsibility of the person to ensure that he is making ethical decisions.

The next article, “Ban the Cellphone Ban,” concentrated on the main point that allowing students the choice to use their cellphone allows for a cooperative and flexible learning environment. It noted that controlling students to obey a certain rule takes away their opportunity to demonstrate responsibility and opportunity to develop their own lifestyle. According to the article, forcing a policy on the students only teaches them to obey rules laid down by others.

“My Laptop Ate My Attention Span” broadens from cellphone use to general technology, saying that the students should be given the opportunity to learn fully, given that it is their education that they are paying for. As long as they are not distracting others, laptops and other technology can be employed to further the student’s educational experience. Also, the student is allowed to practice self-control with technology on their own terms, enhancing character and accountability.