

8 (eight) / 11

Negative impact of smartphones

- 1 A smartphone is a mobile phone with advanced services of communication and computing. However,
- 2 despite **its** high-tech functions and its advantages, with its increasing popularity the smartphone has
- 3 negatively influenced the behaviour of individuals and society as a whole.
- 4 Some critics believe that the world would be much healthier without smartphones. These people argue that
- 5 they have caused a negative impact on social relationships, education, health and other part of our life.
- 6 Too much engagement on smartphones may lead to a lack of interactions between individuals and do harm
- 7 to human relationships. Although **they** were initially developed to help people stay integrated and
- 8 connected, they are instead disconnecting people from society and relationships due to their addictive
- 9 nature.
- 10 According to a 2011 survey by the U.K. communications regulator Ofcom, 51 percent of adults and 65
- 11 percent of teenagers said they have used their smartphone while socializing with others. This proves that
- 12 even when people are having face-to-face communication, they are constantly distracted by their phone.
- 13 Most of today's oral conversations are asymmetrical; with one person speaking and the other concentrated
- 14 on their devices. As a result, they are not able to have a good conversation and are prevented from
- 15 building trust between each other.
- 16 In addition, people addicted to smartphones usually become attached to the meaningless approval of
- 17 strangers online and become indifferent to the real world.
- 18 Furthermore, they tend to avoid oral communication since they find it uncomfortable and difficult to
- 19 address real people, so they prefer communication through emails or text messages.
- 20 Smartphones not only threaten our relationships, but also cause many problems with education, especially
- 21 for children. It is difficult for students to concentrate in class since the phones enable students to chat, play
- 22 games, watch videos and surf the Internet.
- 23 Researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln found that university students check their phones
- 24 approximately 11 times a day while in class. More than 80 percent have stated that they affect their
- 25 learning and a quarter admitted that their grades had fallen as a result.
- 26 All the entertainment in the smartphones only encourages students to waste their time on it and saps their
- 27 motivation to grasp the knowledge they need.
- 28 Also, they automatically make students depend on them to answer questions and avoid any thinking.
- 29 This takes away their overall intelligence. In addition, many students misuse **their** phones to cheat in
- 30 exams by using the Internet or collaborating with classmates which also prevents students from learning
- 31 properly using their own ability.
- 32 Apparently, one third of teens use smartphones to cheat in school according to a Common Sense Media
- 33 poll. Without the phones, students would be able to be efficiently immersed in their studies without
- 34 distractions.

Are they True or False? (4p.)

1. Smartphones have a negative effect on individual's behaviour. True (ln 3)
2. Interaction between individuals and human relationships benefit from the use of smartphones. False
3. Conversations are generally asymmetrical today. True (ln 13) *Los conversaciones son asimétricas*
4. Smartphones are considered an effective tool in class. They improve students' performance and learning. False

Extract from the text and state line number (5p.)

1. One compound noun: University students (ln 23)
2. One word with a prefix: Interactions (ln 6)
3. Two different connectors (except and/or/but): despite (ln 2), in addition (ln 16)
4. Three words with different suffixes: noun: engagement (ln 6) adjective: meaningless (ln 16)
adverb: Apparently (ln 32) *[A smartphone is a mobile phone... (ln 1)]*
5. One example of verb to be as main verb. Translate it: (un)telephone intelligent s.m. telephone móvil
6. One example of present continuous: _____

Contextual reference (3p)

1. its (line 2) refers to services of communication and computing
2. they (line 7) refers to smartphone
3. their (line 29) refers to students

Translate these noun phrases (2p.)

1. their addictive nature Su adictiva naturaleza
2. Most of today's oral conversations la mayoría de conversaciones orales

Answer in Spanish. (6p)

1. Mention two problems associated with the use of smartphones and education.
2. Why conversations are considered asymmetrical?
3. What did researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln find?

6.1 Uno de estos problemas es el de la atención en las clases por su uso, ya que no les permite concentrarse. El segundo problema es que el entretenimiento durante la clase ~~no~~ permite solo conduce a perder el tiempo en lugar de aprender.

6.2 Las conversaciones no son simétricas debido a que cuando una persona habla, la otra está concentrada en su dispositivo.

6.3 Investigadores de esta universidad descubren que estudiantes ven sus celulares aproximadamente 11 veces durante las clases en el día y también un 80% es afectado por este ~~uso~~ uso excesivo afectando su aprendizaje.