**Kennedy Kaufman, SI 422 Mobile Phone Practicum**

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Locations: Starbucks on South U, C.C. Little, Bert’s Café, The League lounge

**Field Notes (Friday, 12:00pm):**

In line, using thumb to scroll, right hand. Switched phone to left hand using right fit get as styllus, typing. Phone at mid stomach. Person wearing glasses. Holding bottom half of phone. Typing with pointer finger. Newer iPhone. 30-35  
  
Walking fast. Typing with two thumbs. Headphones plugged in. Staring down at phone. Had to stop at door to finish on phone. Newer iPhone. 18  
  
Waiting in line. Holding phone in left hand. Holding bottom half. Typing with off hand finger as styllus. Phone at upper chest. Head is arched forward at phone. Switch to using right hand only. Typing with thumb. Newer iPhone. 18  
  
Sitting at bus stop. Phone in right hand  using thumb to scroll through Instagram. Phone resting on knee. Double tapping to like photo. Leaning forward over phone. Stops to check bus time schedule. Continued on phone. Legs crossed. Relaxed position poor posture. G  
Holding phone at bottom half. Puts phone away to put on gloves. Who can blame here. Couldn't use phone with gloves on. Sacrificed cold fingers. Newer iPhone 18-20  
Lots of double finger texting.   
  
Sitting in the league. Relaxing in lounge chair. iPhone is older, a 5. Elbows outward. Phone butt in chest. Using two hands to hold majority of phone. Typing with both thumbs. Finger resting on top of phone. 18-20  
  
Sitting in lounge chair. Headphones in. Phone 5 inches from face using elbow as a base on armchair. iPhone. Phone at face height. Right hand. Person was waiting to meet with someone.  Relaxed spot. Other people reading and having conversation. 18-20  
  
Sitting at wooden table. Elbow resting on armchair. Holding phone at base bottom. Using pointer finger as a stylus to type. Glasses on head. A place to kill time and catch up on media. Age older than 40-50

**Takeaways:**

The first place I went to was Starbucks. In my time, it was rare to find someone on their phone unless they were in line. Those sitting were mostly conversing with another person or engaged with their laptop. I only observed one person use both phone and laptop. It was a brief interaction to read their screen. For those in line, I only observed a handful that didn’t check their phone at least once. Most people seemed to hold their phone at their mid chest area, gripping at the base. I observed three styles of typing, one hand one thumb, two hands two thumb, and one hand with finger stylus. It was least common to see the two hand approach while in line. Two hand typing seemed to be more prominent when I was walking around with other people typing and walking (better grip while moving). Those in line were stagnant and didn’t need the extra grip.

I noticed many people would arch their neck and head down towards their phone while in line. Their gaze would be locked into their phone as it seemed to pull them in. One girl was typing and walking into Starbucks, but stopped right before the door to finish her message, about 2 seconds.

Overall, I only saw two people over that age of 18-22. Both of these people used the one hand with finger stylus method to type, maybe more of a norm among older generation? Still, everyone gripped the phone at the base/bottom half.

Next I went to the bus stop. I know people don’t eat or drink here, but it was still a cool place to see people kill time on their phones. One girl I observed sat with her legs crossed, resting her phone on her knee. Her back was arched forward along with her neck and head, leaning over phone. She had taken her gloves off to use the screen. She used the thumb of her hand holding the phone to scroll through Instagram. She would also double tap the screen to “like” photos. Soon, the cold crippled her fingers, and she put her gloves on and pocketed her phone.

iPhones were insanely common. I only observed one other Samsung phone being used by a man aged 23-30. All the iPhone users seemed to interact with their phone very similarly, also because the size was normally the same. At Bert’s in the Michigan League, I saw a student with the only iPhone 5 I observed. He held his phone very differently because that version is much smaller than the newer iPhones. His elbows propped up his phone in his chest. Both of his hands covered the entire phone, using two thumbs to type. One pointer finger even rested at the top of the phone.

I was one woman using the one hand one thumb typing method to message while using the other hand to hold a sandwich and eat.

People were mostly alone on their devices. At the League, I was two people on their phones until the person they were meeting with arrived. They would greet them and pocket their phone. It seems it is a social norm to pass the time by interacting with a phone.

I once saw two people in line reading from the same phone. Because of the small screen, they had to huddle close and both laughed when they saw the screen. It was intimate and friendly. The held the phone vertically.

I never observed anyone using their phone horizontally.