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# Should Cellphones Be Allowed in School?

By: Dr. Shemmicca Moore Director of Secondary Instruction; Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, Gardner-Webb University, NC

> Technology Grades 6-8



## Introduction

Cellphone use among students has skyrocketed over the last few years. In fact, it has now become uncommon for a student to not have a cellphone. Students will write an argumentative essay detailing why they should be able allowed to utilize their cellphones in school.

# Learning Objectives

- · (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.1) Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.1.b) Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.

### Materials Needed

· Sticky notes

## Procedure

#### Day 1

- 1. Introduce the topic by discussing how cellphone use has become common among students. Engage students in a discussion that allows them to see the progression from students hardly having a cellphone until today where almost every student has one.
- 2. Have the students complete an individual bubble map outlining why the use of cellphones would be beneficial in school and class.
- 3. Pair students with a partner to discuss their bubble map.
- 4. The students are to use bubble maps to compose their essay.

#### Day 2

- 1. Allow the students an opportunity to complete their rough draft.
- 2. Have the students choose a partner and peer edit each other's essay.
- 3. The students should use the peer edits from their rough draft to develop a publishable final draft.

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# **Writing Prompt**

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4. Have a publishing party where students' writing pieces are displayed and the students rotate around the room reading each other pieces. Provide the students with sticky notes so that they can leave positive, celebratory comments on their classmates' writing.

**Writing Prompt:** Cellphones can often be viewed as a distraction in school and the classroom. Think about ways that using a cellphone in school and class will benefit you as a student. Write an argumentative essay detailing why you believe that students should be allowed to use cellphones in school and during class.

### Evaluation

Please see included rubric to grade student essays.

