

Teens and mobile phones at school

Today, new technology has evolved and now most teenagers have devices such as mobile phones (screen touch), laptops, desk-tops and tablets.

What for ?

Teenagers use these devices to send messages to their parents or to communicate with their friends. Thanks to their mobile phones they can take photos, listen to music and surf the net. Most of them use it to go on social networking sites, like Facebook, Snapchat or Instagram.

Phones at school in France

Unlike English students and French Middle Schools students, teenagers can use their mobiles in High School corridors (but not in class!).

What for? According to Jacques Monod's High School teenagers, their mobiles enable them to find their friends who are not in the same class, for instance at lunch time. Besides, some of them take a picture of their timetable and they look at it to know where they have to be for the next hour. However, a few students have confessed us they use it to cheat at exams and to avoid people they don't want to speak with. Finally, they can have a quick look at social networks.



Positive aspects

Teens can tell their parents when they have finished class earlier. They can ask for homework help. Then they can also call the emergency services if something bad has happened.

Negative aspects

Research has been made into the possible dangers of mobile phones and has revealed that an intensive use of mobile phones can be bad for your health. Furthermore, teenagers can get addicted to their mobiles or can be victims of cyber-bullying.

Survey

To conclude on this topic, we have carried out a survey in our class:

- Everybody has a mobile phone.
- Everybody has a smart phone.
- They had their first phone between 12 and 15 years old.
- 40% are addicted to their phones
- 80% change it every 2 years
- 60% would be ready to join the National Unplugging Day (a day when American people decide not to use any high tech devices!)
- 90% sleep with their mobile for the alarm clock.
- They use their phone from 1 to 3 hours a day.
- Everybody can use it to surf on the net
- 70% prefer sending messages, 20% prefer going on social network sites and 10% prefer playing games.
- The most frequently used applications are Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter...

We also asked Rachel, our British assistant, if she could use her mobile phone when she was at school in the UK and she replied she couldn't, even in corridors, so she thinks it's interesting that we can use our phones in French schools!

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