



Cell phones

Lesson code: 1392-71QF-P8M8

PRE-INTERMEDIATE

American English

1 Reading

Complete the text with the vocabulary below:

dictionary
pre-paidapps
chargebrowser
alarm clockpost
subscriptionlocation
refill cardscase
tap

My cell phone

I can't live without my new smartphone.

I use it every day to make calls, send text messages to my friends, and listen to my voicemail. But it can do much more. For example, I can check my email when I am not at my computer, and I can check the time. In the morning, I use it as an _____¹ to wake me up. It's also very useful when I'm on vacation -- I use it to take photos. Later, I can email them to my friends or _____² them on Facebook.

I can install a lot of other _____³. If I want to check the weather for next week, I just _____⁴ the screen with my finger. If I want to translate a word into another language, I can use a special _____⁵ app. If I am lost, I can use a GPS app to check my _____⁶. If I want to browse the internet, I can use my phone's _____⁷. And if I am bored, I can play games.

I have a monthly _____⁸ plan, which includes 2 hours of free calls every month. With my last cell phone, I used a _____⁹ service, which means that I had to pay before using the phone. I had to buy _____¹⁰ in order to add credit to my phone.

There are some problems with my phone. Firstly, it can break very easily, so I use a special _____¹¹ to cover it. Also, the battery life is very short, so I need to _____¹² it every night.

Match the verbs on the left with the nouns on the right.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1. send | a. calls |
| 2. make | b. photos |
| 3. take | c. text messages |
| 4. listen to | d. the battery |
| 5. charge | e. the time |
| 6. check | f. your voicemail |



2 Talking point

Work in pairs. Ask your partner questions, for example 'Do you use your cell phone to send text messages?' Put a ✓ or X in each cell. Then answer your partner's questions. Compare your scores.

Function	Your partner	You
send text messages		
post photos on Facebook		
listen to your voicemail		
check emails		
watch videos		
check the weather		
listen to music		
play games		
learn languages		
browse the internet		

Your partner: _____ / 10

You: _____ / 10

3 Cell phone problems

Study the problems below and match them to the possible reasons/causes.

1. "My battery is dead."
 2. "There's no signal here."
 3. "My phone works, but I can't make any calls."
 4. "Nothing works!"
 5. "I don't receive new text messages."
 6. "The phone is locked!"
- a. You are out of credit.
 - b. You are underground.
 - c. You entered the wrong PIN code three times.
 - d. You forgot to charge your phone.
 - e. Your inbox is full.
 - f. Your phone is broken.

Work in pairs. Student A, read a problem from the list. Student B, tell Student A the reason for the problem. Reverse roles and repeat the exercise. Try to read from memory.



4 Talking point

Discuss any of the questions:

1. Do you think people use cell phones too much?
2. Which payment plan do you use -- pre-paid or subscription? Which is better?

