



SMART JUNIORS 2

**Full Smartphone Access:
Is it Harmful or Helpful to the Youth?**

Lesson 32
Read for Main Idea



Academic Vocabulary

Read the sentences. Choose the correct definition for the highlighted word.

1. Parents must set a time **restriction** on smartphone use to maintain a healthy balance for their children.



n. the negative part of a situation or a disadvantage or problem of something

2. The **downside** of excessive smartphone use is that it can lead to reduced face-to-face interactions with peers.



n. the act of using the internet to harm or threaten someone, often through sending hurtful messages.

3. The school has implemented strict policies to address and prevent **cyberbullying** among students.



n. an official limit or control on what people or companies are allowed to do or can happen

Academic Vocabulary

Read the sentences. Choose the correct definition for the highlighted word.

4. During their field trip, the students had the opportunity to **encounter** a variety of wildlife in the natural reserve.



n. an inability to stop doing or using something, especially something harmful

5. Excessive smartphone use can lead to **addiction** among students, affecting their academic performance.



v. to experience something, especially something unpleasant

6. She often found herself **distracted** during the long lectures in school, her mind wandering to other thoughts.



adj. having one's attention diverted or interrupted away from the main focus or task

Think Before Reading

Smartphone Usage

1. How often do you use a smartphone?
2. What do you usually do with your smartphone?



Full Smartphone Access: Is it Harmful or Helpful to the Youth?

Smartphone usage has become more common among young people in today's digital age. In the United States, for example, a 2022 study found that 61% of US teens say they have access to their smartphones all the time. This means that they can use their smartphones whenever they want, without any restrictions from their parents. Many claim that youth should have unrestricted access to smartphones, but I strongly disagree due to several important reasons.

Some people argue that giving the youth unlimited access to smartphones can greatly benefit their education. It's true; smartphones have loads of educational apps that can make learning fun. However, there's a downside to this. Just as these teenagers have too much freedom with their smartphones, so too might they use them to cheat on tests. A study conducted by the Pew Research Center in 2022 found that 19% of U.S. teens say they have cheated on a test using their smartphone. This includes using their phones to look up answers, messaging other students for answers, or taking photos of test questions.

Many people support the idea of youngsters having complete access to smartphones because it helps them stay connected with family and friends. In spite of this convenience, it comes with a serious risk - cyberbullying. The more time they spend online, the more likely they are to encounter hurtful messages from others, which can have severe emotional consequences. Just take Emily's daughter, Sarah, as an example. Sarah, who had unrestricted smartphone access, went through cyberbullying. Her classmates sent her rude messages on social media, and as a result, it hurt her self-confidence and made her anxious about using her phone.

Smartphones offer plenty of fun and entertainment with games, videos, and apps. Supporters say it's a great way for these young people to relax and enjoy themselves. But here's the catch: too much smartphone time can lead to addiction and harm their schoolwork. In fact, a recent survey by Common Sense Media tells us that 72% of teens check their phones at least once an hour, and 75% say they have been distracted from their homework by their phones.

In conclusion, apart from the advantages, like educational apps, communication, and entertainment, there are also serious risks.

Predict From the Title

Look at **the title** of the essay and answer.

1. What is the essay's title?
2. Complete the prediction below.

I think this essay is about...



- Listen and read the essay.

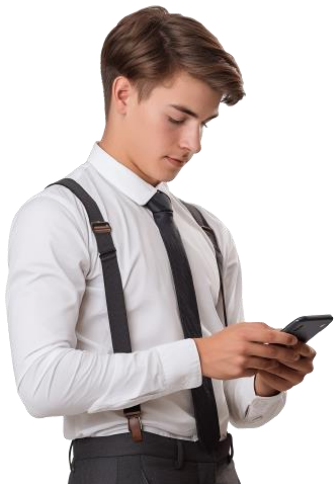
Full Smartphone Access: Is it Harmful or Helpful to the Youth?

- ▶ Smartphone usage has become more common among young people in today's digital age. In the United States, for example, a 2022 study found that 61% of US teens say they have access to their smartphones all the time. This means that they can use their smartphones whenever they want, without any **restrictions** from their parents. Many claim that youth should have unrestricted access to smartphones, but I strongly disagree due to several important reasons.



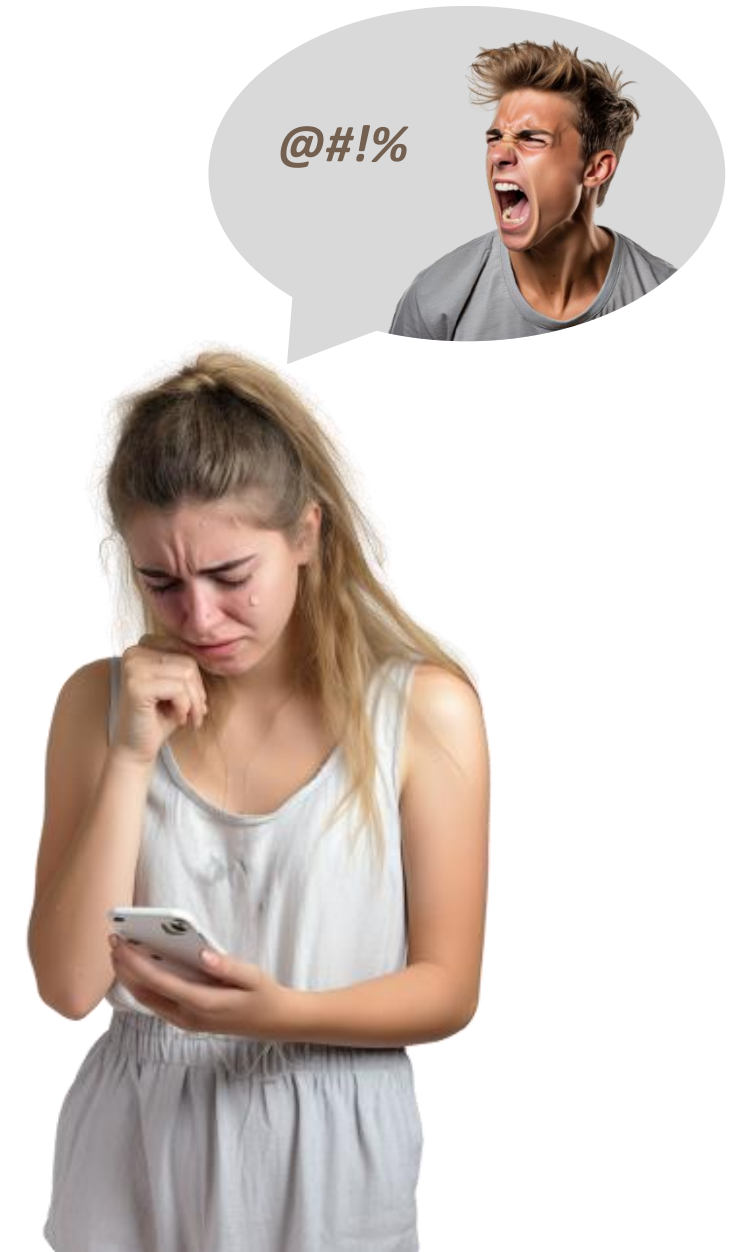
READ FOR MAIN IDEA

- ▶ Some people argue that giving the youth unlimited access to smartphones can greatly benefit their education. It's true; smartphones have loads of educational apps that can make learning fun. However, there's a **downside** to this. Just as these teenagers have too much freedom with their smartphones, so too might they use them to cheat on tests. A study conducted by the Pew Research Center in 2022 found that 19% of U.S. teens say they have cheated on a test using their smartphone. This includes using their phones to look up answers, messaging other students for answers, or taking photos of test questions.



READ FOR MAIN IDEA

- ▶ Many people support the idea of youngsters having complete access to smartphones because it helps them stay connected with family and friends. In spite of this convenience, it comes with a serious risk – **cyberbullying**. The more time they spend online, the more likely they are to **encounter** hurtful messages from others, which can have severe emotional consequences. Just take Emily's daughter, Sarah, as an example. Sarah, who had unrestricted smartphone access, went through cyberbullying. Her classmates sent her rude messages on social media, and as a result, it hurt her self-confidence and made her anxious about using her phone.



READ FOR MAIN IDEA

- ▶ Smartphones offer plenty of fun and entertainment with games, videos, and apps. Supporters say it's a great way for these young people to relax and enjoy themselves. But here's the catch – too much smartphone time can lead to **addiction** and harm their schoolwork. In fact, a recent survey by Common Sense Media tells us that 72% of teens check their phones at least once an hour, and 75% say they have been **distracted** from their homework by their phones.
- ▶ In conclusion, apart from the advantages, like educational apps, communication, and entertainment, there are also serious risks, such as cyberbullying, addiction, and poor school performance. This is why I believe it's essential for parents to set some boundaries on how children use their smartphones rather than letting them use them without any restrictions.

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The Objective

What do you think is the purpose of this essay?

A

The purpose of this essay is to present and argue a specific viewpoint regarding smartphone usage among young people.

B

The purpose of the essay is to provide a detailed and vivid description of how young people perceive smartphones.

Main Idea for Paragraphs



Skim and answer True or False.

- _____ The main idea is that young people rarely use smartphones, and the author agrees with unrestricted access.
- _____ The main idea is that many young people have complete smartphone access, but the author disagrees with it for specific reasons.

Skimming Strategy

Read the **introductory sentence** and then scan the **rest of the paragraph** to identify the main idea.



Full Smartphone Access: Is it Harmful or Helpful to the Youth?

Paragraph 1

Smartphone usage has become more common among young people in today's digital age. In the United States, for example, a 2022 study found that 61% of US teens say they have access to their smartphones all the time. This means that they can use their smartphones whenever they want, without any restrictions from their parents. Many claim that youth should have unrestricted access to smartphones, but I strongly disagree due to several important reasons.

Main Idea for Paragraphs



Skim and choose the main idea.

- A** advantages and drawbacks of unlimited smartphone access for education
- B** the impact of smartphone usage on young people's social lives

Skimming Strategy

Focus on the sentences that **introduce and summarize the main topic** to find the main idea.



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Paragraph 2

Some people argue that giving the youth unlimited access to smartphones can greatly benefit their education. It's true; smartphones have loads of educational apps that can make learning fun. However, there's a downside to this. Just as these teenagers have too much freedom with their smartphones, so too might they use them to cheat on tests. A study conducted by the Pew Research Center in 2022 found that 19% of U.S. teens say they have cheated on a test using their smartphone. This includes using their phones to look up answers, messaging other students for answers, or taking photos of test questions.

Main Idea for Paragraphs



Skim and underline.

1. An introductory phrase introduces the background of the topic.
Can you find it in this paragraph?
2. Which sentence tells the main idea of this paragraph?

Skimming Strategy

Check the **introductory phrase** at the beginning and focus on the **first and last sentences** for the main idea.



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Paragraph 3

Many people support the idea of youngsters having complete access to smartphones because it helps them stay connected with family and friends. In spite of this convenience, it comes with a serious risk – cyberbullying. The more time they spend online, the more likely they are to encounter hurtful messages from others, which can have severe emotional consequences. Just take Emily's daughter, Sarah, as an example. Sarah, who had unrestricted smartphone access, went through cyberbullying. Her classmates sent her rude messages on social media, and as a result, it hurt her self-confidence and made her anxious about using her phone.

Main Idea for Paragraphs



Skim and state.

1. Which sentence states the main idea of this paragraph?
2. State the main idea in your own words.

Skimming Strategy

The first sentence does not always tell the main idea. **Double-check** if it is followed with a **different point of view**.



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Paragraph 4

Smartphones offer plenty of fun and entertainment with games, videos, and apps. Supporters say it's a great way for these young people to relax and enjoy themselves. But here's the catch – too much smartphone time can lead to addiction and harm their schoolwork. In fact, a recent survey by Common Sense Media tells us that 72% of teens check their phones at least once an hour, and 75% say they have been distracted from their homework by their phones.

Main Idea for Paragraphs



Skim and underline.

1. What is the main purpose of this paragraph?
2. What is the author's opinion about the topic?

Skimming Strategy

Look for the **author's viewpoint** on the topic expressed in the essay.



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Paragraph 5

In conclusion, apart from the advantages, like educational apps, communication, and entertainment, there are also serious risks, such as cyberbullying, addiction, and poor school performance. This is why I believe it's essential for parents to set some boundaries on how children use their smartphones rather than letting them use them without any restrictions.



Academic Vocabulary

restriction

downside

cyberbullying

encounter

addiction

distracted

Read for Main Idea

SKIMMING STRATEGY

1. Read the **introductory sentence** and then scan the **rest of the paragraph** to identify the main idea.
2. Focus on the sentences that **introduce and summarize the main topic** to find the main idea.
3. Check the **introductory phrase** at the beginning and focus on the **first and last sentences** for the main idea.
4. The first sentence does not always tell the main idea. **Double-check** if it is followed with a **different point of view**.
5. Look for the **author's viewpoint** on the topic expressed in the essay.





WHAT'S NEXT...

In the next lesson, we're going to read an essay titled 'Full Smartphone Access: Is it Harmful or Helpful to the Youth?' See you next time!