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## **Level 2**

# **Mobile phones in class lower test scores**

**12th June, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1506/150612-mobile-phones-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1506/150612-mobile-phones-2.html>

There is bad news for students who use their mobile phones in class. New research shows that students do not learn very well when they text and use social media in class. The research looks at the effects of texting and social media on student learning. Researchers looked at 145 American university students in the classroom. Some of the students used their mobile phones in class, while the others had their phones switched off. The students who did not use their mobile phones during the class got higher scores on tests they took at the end of the class.

One of the biggest challenges teachers have in the classroom is the battle to keep students working. Many students feel they need to be online and checking messages, even when they had work to do in class. The researchers said it is common for students to be physically present in class, but mentally absent because they are using their mobiles. Many teachers are fighting a "losing battle" because students are more interested in social media than classwork. Research in England found that test scores went up by six per cent after mobile phones were banned in class.

Sources: [http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2015/06/09/us-mobile-phones-study-test\\_n\\_7541816.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2015/06/09/us-mobile-phones-study-test_n_7541816.html)  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-33047927>  
<https://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/news/could-texting-and-tweeting-lectures-be-good-learning>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1506/150612-mobile-phones-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. bad                                     | a. media               |
| 2. use their mobile phones                 | b. very well           |
| 3. students do not learn                   | c. switched off        |
| 4. use social                              | d. news                |
| 5. the effects of texting and social media | e. of the class        |
| 6. the others had their phones             | f. on tests            |
| 7. higher scores                           | g. in class            |
| 8. at the end                              | h. on student learning |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                      |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. One of the biggest challenges     | a. for students     |
| 2. the battle to keep                | b. be online        |
| 3. students feel they need to        | c. students working |
| 4. they had work                     | d. battle           |
| 5. The researchers said it is common | e. by six per cent  |
| 6. be physically                     | f. teachers have    |
| 7. fighting a losing                 | g. to do in class   |
| 8. test scores went up               | h. present in class |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1506/150612-mobile-phones-2.html>

There (1) \_\_\_\_\_ students who use their mobile phones in class. New research shows that students do not learn very (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and use social media in class. The research looks at the effects of texting (3) \_\_\_\_\_ on student learning. Researchers looked at 145 American university students in the classroom. Some (4) \_\_\_\_\_ used their mobile phones in class, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ had their phones switched off. The students who did not use their mobile phones during the class (6) \_\_\_\_\_ on tests they took at the end of the class.

One of the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ teachers have in the classroom is the battle to keep students working. Many students feel they need to be online and (8) \_\_\_\_\_, even when they (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in class. The researchers said it is common for students to be physically present in class, but (10) \_\_\_\_\_ because they are using their mobiles. Many teachers are fighting (11) \_\_\_\_\_ because students are more interested in social media than classwork. Research in England found that test scores (12) \_\_\_\_\_ per cent after mobile phones were banned in class.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1506/150612-mobile-phones-2.html>

There is bad news for students who use their mobile phones in class. New research shows that students do not learn very well when they text and use social media in class. The research looks at the effects of texting and social media on student learning. Researchers looked at 145 American universities and their students in the classroom. Some of the students used their mobile phones in class, while the others had their phones switched off. The students who did not use their mobile phones during the class got higher scores on tests they took at the end of the class. One of the biggest challenges teachers have in the classroom is the battle to keep students working. Many students feel they need to be online and checking messages, even when they have work to do in class. The researchers said it is common for students to be physically present in class, but mentally absent because they are using their mobiles. Many teachers are fighting a "losing battle" because students are more interested in social media than classwork. Research in England found that test scores went up by six percent after mobile phones were banned in class.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

---

b)

---

c)

---

d)

---

e)

---

f)

---

g)

---

h)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

---

b)

---

c)

---

d)

---

e)

---

f)

---

g)

---

h)

---

