

Live Lesson Notes

Phones

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What you will learn:

Essential vocabulary
What you use your phone for
Kinds of Apps
Student Question
Vague Language
Benefits of texting
Idiomatic expressions

Some useful Links

Useful vocabulary about phones

<https://dictionaryblog.cambridge.org/2014/06/18/the-language-of-mobile-phones/>

Article about the **benefits of texting**

(This website is a great resource and you can sign up for free)

<https://newsela.com/read/texting-can-be-positive/id/44960/#>

[Interesting video about the 'Look Up' movement](#)

Click to get a complete **Mock IELTS** Test.

<https://takeielts.net/the-path-to-success-in-the-ielts-test/>

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Introduction

In this free IELTS Speaking lesson on the topic of PHONES, you will learn how to talk about phones, mobile phone apps and texting.

[Watch the complete video about this topic of phones here.](#)

Essential Vocabulary

*It is essential to build your vocabulary and also to start **activating** it.*

*That means you should try **making some phrases** with the vocabulary below.*

*Remember to always learn the **collocations** of new words.*

Smart phone / mobile phone / cell phone

I don't have a **landline** (fixed phone at home in the office)

The **battery** is low

My phone is **low on battery**

I have **run out of** battery

My phone / the battery **is dead**

I need to **charge (up) my phone**

What do you use your mobile phone for?

There are 2 ways of expressing use

1. *I use it FOR + gerund*

I use it for accessing the Internet

2. *I use it to + verb*

I use it to access the Internet

Both mean the same and either can be used

For **passing on** information

For **sharing** stuff **on** social media

For calling friends

For photography

For reading newspapers

For **listening to** songs

For **taking selfies**

I am selfie-mad (I love it)

To chat

To **navigate my way around**

To watch videos

To **apply for** jobs

To **listen to** podcasts

To **get the weather forecast**

To **do online shopping**

I use it to download **trending** apps

I use it for texting

I use it to **send my emails** at work or at home

I tend to use it just to get online and **surf the web**

It's really handy for video-conferences
=convenient, easy to use

It comes in handy for accessing Facebook and other social networks

It's the best way to play games

I **use it as** an alarm clock

I also use it **to kill time**

Kinds of apps

Games
Language learning
Productivity
Stocks and trading
News
Health and fitness
Music streaming
Audio books
Dictionaries
Weather
Photo editing
Personal finance

Places where you cannot use a cell phone

If we are talking about not making a noise or **being a nuisance...**
(A pain, a bother, something bad)

Temples, mosques, churches or **similar places of worship**

Some hospital **waiting areas**

Quiet zones of trains

Libraries

Cinemas

Theaters

If it's more about **not being allowed to** take photos....

Some museums

Some art galleries

Temples

Airport security check

Passing through customs control (airport)

Some government buildings (e.g. Embassies) **forbid / prohibit** phones
=not allowed

Generally speaking,...

When taking an exam

In many schools

At the petrol station / gas station

In meetings - at least we have **to turn the phone to silent**

To turn your phone off 😊

To turn off your phone 😊

To turn it off 😊

To turn off it XXX

Vague language

When you don't know the name of something, you can say...

It's a **thingy**, you know a kind of **thingamajig**

I use a **whatchamacallit**

I like to use the **whatsisname**

What are the benefits of texting?

Texting is **less intrusive**

It's easier and quicker, especially in emergency situations

It's convenient / **handy**

It comes in handy for expressing emotions

It **eases** the communication between people

It saves time

It's not **time-consuming** / time-draining

It's great for sharing important information

We can say things we may be **too shy** to say **in person**

Idioms

Just **drop me a line** on What's app when you know = *get in touch*

You can **keep me posted** by sending me a message on Facebook
=*keep me up to date*

I use Facebook **to keep in touch** with family

The great thing about texting is that it allows you **to get straight to the point**, (=be direct) you don't need **to beat about/around the bush** (*to ramble, be indirect*)

Texting is good for **cutting straight to the chase**
=*getting to the point*

At last we can speak, we've been **playing phone tag** all day!

To hit the bullseye = to get it right = to **hit the nail on the head**

Students' Questions about Phones

Keith, will books be replaced by mobile phones in the future?

To be honest, I think **that's highly unlikely**, and the reason is I think a lot of people like **to access both** kinds of things.

So, for example, I enjoy reading paper books, but at the same time, I also like to **read digital books on** the Kindle App on my mobile phone.

So, **I don't think it's a question of either or**, I think actually, it's gonna be both, but maybe we will use one more than the other,

and it's most likely that we are gonna use mobile phones much more than we'll use the old fashioned, **fuddy-duddy**, paperback books.

I think they'll **go out of fashion**, but I don't think they will disappear.

Keith, which app you use most in your mobile phone?

That's a great question.

I have got so many Apps, **it's hard to choose**, but if I had to choose one I would **opt for** Google maps, to be honest,

because when I need to **navigate my way around** a new city or even my own city here, I always use Google maps.

I think I **have lost the habit of** asking people the way.

I **just much prefer** to use Google maps.

It's quicker, it's faster, and it's more accurate.

So, that's probably **the App I use most** on my mobile phone.