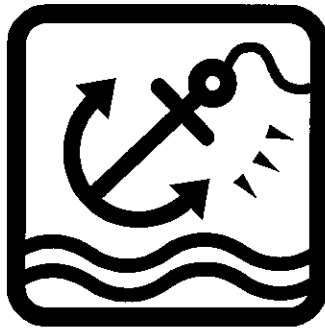


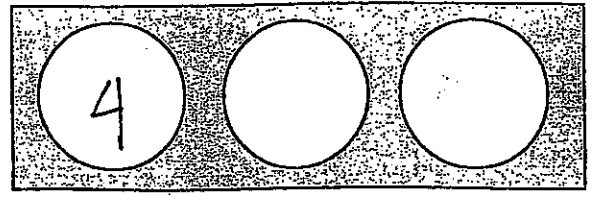
Oakland Unified School District Writing Proficiency Project



7th Grade Persuasive Anchor Papers Banning Cell Phones Prompt

Note: Please do not use the anchor papers with students prior to the administration of the Process Writing Assessment

Writing Sample



Do not write in this box.

START ESSAY HERE

We Need our Phones

Almost every child I know owns and needs a cell phone. That's why I think cell phones should be allowed on school grounds.

We need cell phones for many reasons that in my opinion, ~~outweigh~~ ^{outweigh} the consequences of having them in class. My friends and I all have to use public transportation or walk to get home. If there's an emergency, contact with loved ones and/or family could be vital. On a lighter note, if a child wanted or needed to stay after school or go to someone else's house, they would need to use a phone to contact their parents.

Public transportation is the main source of travel for students from middle school through college. If a situation comes up where a bus or train is late, they could be stuck somewhere for hours and parents could become very worried. On the other hand, if they had a ^{cell} phone they could call

someone to pick them up or just to let them know they'll be late.

If ^{suddenly} there happens to be an emergency and the power goes out at school, then there would be no way for a child to let his or her parents know if they're hurt or not. Also, once the child's guardian is informed, the child could be hurt, or worse, dead. With a cell phone, parents and guardians could be contacted immediately and come to pick them up.

When a student is assigned a project, he or she may need to go to ^{another's} ~~over~~ house to start working. If he cannot contact his guardian, he cannot go to the ^{other} person's house, and therefore ^{may} turn in an incomplete project.

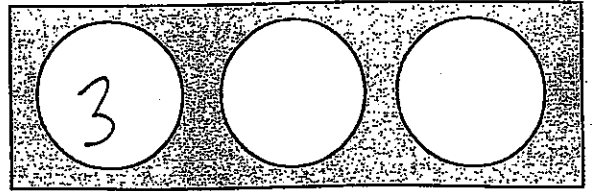
Of course there are down sides to having phones at school. If a child's phone rings during class, they will get in trouble by disrupting the entire class. Children will laugh and sing along to the ring tone.

Along with disrupting the class, if two children have each other's numbers, they can text during class. Texting stops

the person from leaning during class
~~and~~ to texting under their desk. They
can even give each other answers on tests.

Both of these problems with phones
can easily be stopped by taking phones
during class or just turning them
on silent. If a child has a phone
they can be much more safe about
transportation, making plans, and emergencies.
We need to be allowed to have phones at
school.

Writing Sample



Do not write in this box.

START ESSAY HERE

School Cell Phones? Yes or No

Almost every child has a cell phone. With the rule that says no electronics at school, students are not allowed to do many very important things. It might be o.k. if you were at least allowed to bring a cell phone and leave it off, but the rule says no cell phones. I believe that cell phones should at least be allowed on campus.

Cell phones provide many safety benefits. With an emergency, like a bad asthma attack, you could quickly call your parents, or doctor. In another emergency, your cell phone could be checked for contacts if something happens to you. Without a cell phone on hand, you have no way to contact anybody in

case of an emergency.

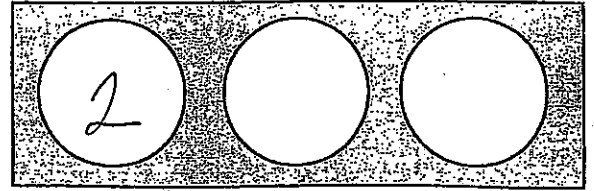
Having a cell phone also provides many conveniences. After school you decided to go to a friend's house you quickly call whoever was picking you up. Let's say someone had to take meds, your parents could remind you by calling your cell phone.

Owning a cell phone can bring peace of mind to your parents. I know that my parents are worried about my brother walking home. Him having a cell phone lets them call him to check if he is o.k.

A cell phone in class could be a disturbance. I realize that cell phone can be very disruptive when they go off. However a rule that all phones must be turned to vibrate would easily fix that.

I believe that having cell phones on campus is way more beneficial than disrupting. A cell phone provides safety, convenience, and peace of mind to almost every one.

Writing Sample



Do not write in this box.

START ESSAY HERE

They should let us have phones in middle school because we can be safe. As you know, there is a lot of danger in school you never know what would happen. Students should have a cell phone in case that the phones in schools don't work. It's OK to ban electronics such as i-pods, cameras, and music stuff.

The principal should let us have phones because I think we are old enough to be mature with phones. I agree a lot that electronics steals our education. I also agree that the teacher stops teaching just to take a phone away from a student. But we need phones to call our parents and say that we are on our way home.

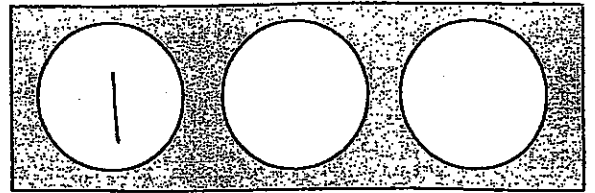
We also need phones because
lets say, thath a earthquake happes and
I'm trap under a rock and nobody knows
I need a cell phone to call for help. The
principal should not baned Cell phones
we live in a place with a lot of danger.

I have a proposition to say
Ms. Stewart should let us have a cell phone day. IF
the day goes well with out taking phones away
We should not baned them. If the day goes
bad we should ~~not~~ baned them.

My opinion about Cell phones
is that they should not baned them. And other
option is have a day with cell phones and see
how it goes. We really need cell phones
Ms. Stewart. Oh! Cell phone are also in-
portant because they let us now where
we are when we are lost. Because they have

Cell phones are important for people because we need them. In only one day a person might have up to 20 calls per day. I agree that electronics are bad for students because we worried a lot about them. Instead of paying attention to class. Ms. Stewart should not ban cell phones.

Writing Sample



Do not write in this box.

START ESSAY HERE

I don't agree with this opinion. Before
Maybe I'll need the cell phone for an
emergency. Maybe I'll need to call somebody
for an emergency. There's some reasons
why kids can't bring cell phones to school
I think that kids can't bring phones
to school because they don't come to
school to talk on the phone they
come to learn. I know that kids
may not need the phone but still I think
that they might need it for an emergency.
So I think that they should let them
bring phones to school but to not
use it just for fun only to use them
when there's an emergency. Or when
they need to make a call to somebody
when they're not feeling good or something
bad happens. So no I don't agree that
people should take cell phones away. I
know that it might not be a good idea
but I still keep on saying that

Its not a good idea to take away
cell phones from kids. Maybe if I go to
friends house or have to stay after school
ill just call my mum and just tell her
so she won't worry. I think that this
is a better way.

7th Grade Persuasive Essay Anchor Papers Cell Phone Prompt

Paper	Score	Annotations
M We Need Our Phones	4	<p><i>Clear, straightforward persuasive writing that corresponds to a 4 Advanced for these reasons:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language is precise and lively (<i>vital, on a lighter note, of course there are downsides...</i>) • Position is fully developed with reasonable and strategic support for position that builds on arguments (<i>In addition to, along with....</i>) • Writing shows awareness of audience and provides a thorough response to counter arguments. • Sentences are varied. Clear control of conventions though there are a few errors that are first draft in nature and some issues with pronouns.
X School Cell Phones? Yes or No	3	<p><i>Writing that supports a clear position and corresponds to a 3 Proficient for these reasons:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation is straightforward and introduction is compelling. (<i>I believe that cell phones should at least be allowed on campus.</i>) • Reasons are clear and supported with evidence, personal anecdote adds support for position • Writer shows awareness of audience and responds to some counter arguments • Language is clear and straightforward; sentence types are somewhat varied. • Writing shows control of conventions though there are some spelling errors (<i>asma, benifits, conviences, dissturbance,</i>) they do not interfere with meaning.
R “They should let us have phones...”	2	<p><i>Writing presents a position and corresponds to a 2 Developing for these reasons:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position becomes confusing and is diluted by proposition and contrast to anti-electronics ban. • Reasons insufficiently support position and the development is weak. Position and proposal are restated with no additional support for position. • Writing lacks sentence variety. Lack of transition words disrupts flow of writing. • Writing lacks audience awareness and moves shifts voices from address to general audience to an

		<p>address to the school's principal. The writer recognizes counter argument (<i>I agree a lot that electronics steals our education,</i>) but does not respond to counter argument.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences are complete and language is general. • Significant spelling errors, but they do not interfere with meaning.
<p>U</p> <p>"I don't agree with this opinion..."</p>	1	<p>Writing that corresponds to a '1' Emerging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The position is vague and the topic is difficult to identify without an orientation. (<i>I don't agree with this opinion....</i>) • The argument is a repetitive ramble and the position shifts as writer thinks through his or her ideas. The writer runs out of steam and concludes abruptly, (<i>I think that this all I gotta say.</i>) • Topic is difficult to determine • Lacks reader awareness • Errors and lack of organization make the writing difficult to understand.