

Telephones: Then and Now



The telephone was invented many years ago. Long ago, all telephones were as big as a lunchbox. They had to stay on a table or wall. Telephones had only one purpose. They were used to speak to other people.

Today many people use cellular phones. Cellular phones can be smaller than your hand. They can be moved anywhere.

These phones can do many things. You can use them to send text messages. You can use them to take photographs. You can use them to play games. There is something else you can use cell phones to do. You can still use them to speak to other people!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: For questions 1-4, circle the correct answer.

1. When were telephones invented?

- a) in the past
- b) in the present
- c) in the future

2. What is being compared in this passage?

- a) text messages and picture messages
- b) early telephones and cell phones
- c) cordless telephones and cell phones

3. Cellular phones are very different from the first telephones but they do have one thing in common. What part of the passage shows us how cellular phones and telephones are the same?

- a) "Cellular phones can be smaller than your hand."
- b) "These phones can do many things."
- c) "You can still use them to speak to other people!"

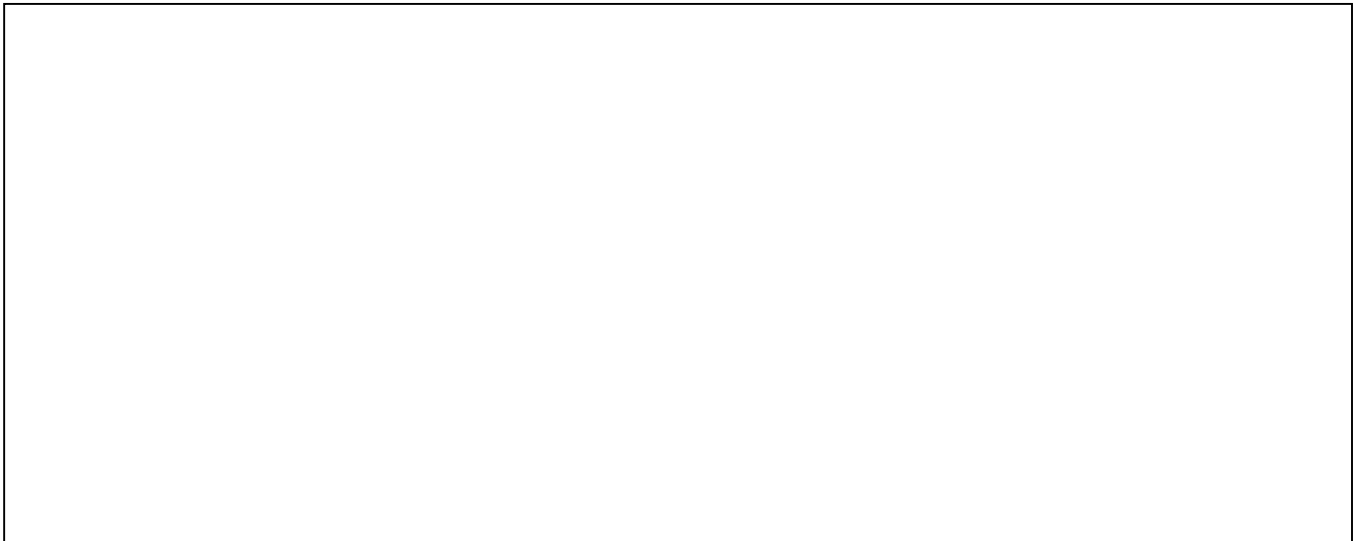
4. What is "Telephones: Then and Now" mostly about?

- a) how phones from the past are different from cellular phones
- b) what you could do with telephones in the past
- c) how people speak to other people

5. A) What does the passage say you can do with a cell phone?

With a cell phone you can

B) Draw a person using a cell phone.



6. What did you learn from "Telephones: Then and Now"?

7. Class Discussion Question: Describe how the first telephones are different from cellular phones.

Teacher Guide & Answers

Note to Teacher: Read each question out loud to your students and have each student complete the worksheet independently. For questions 5 A) and 6, you can have students draw their answers, answer orally, or write their answers depending on your students' progress. If you have them write their answers, you may want to write the word(s) on the board for them to copy. Question 7 is a class discussion question.

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 430

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1. When were telephones invented?

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2. What is being compared in this passage?

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3. Cellular phones are very different from the first telephones but they do have one thing in common. What part of the passage shows us how cellular phones and telephones are the same?

- a) "Cellular phones can be smaller than your hand."
- b) "These phones can do many things."
- c) **"You can still use them to speak to other people!"**

4. What is "Telephones: Then and Now" mostly about?

- a) **how phones from the past are different from cellular phones**
- b) what you could do with telephones in the past
- c) how people speak to other people

5. A) *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

What does the passage say you can do with a cell phone?

Suggested answer: With a cell phone you can *send text messages, take photographs, play games, or speak to other people.*

- B) Draw a person using a cell phone.

Suggested answer: Students' pictures may vary but should include a person doing one of the four things mentioned in the passage that you can do with cell phones (listed above).

6. *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

What did you learn from "Telephones: Then and Now"?

Suggested answer: Answers may vary and should be supported by the passage.

7. *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

Class Discussion Question: Describe how the first telephones are different from cellular phones.

Suggested answer: Answers may vary but the following points from the passage should be included in your discussion:

The First Telephones	Cellular Phones
As big as lunchboxes	Can be smaller than your hand
Had to stay on a table or wall	Can be moved anywhere
Only used to speak to other people	Can do many things