

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

LO: To argue for and against the use of mobile phones.

Yesterday, you should have created a table and planned out your main points for whether 8-year olds should have mobile phones. Today and tomorrow, we are going to write that argument. You need to pick a side now and fight for it! No sitting in the middle, it's either a good idea or a bad idea.

This is just a practise. We will be doing lots of little practises before we write our main persuasive argument in a couple of weeks. I hope you read the example and got some good points from it and understood what made it effective.

I have written an example argument below using some of my main points. First, I have written a title and an introduction which you all will need too. Then, each paragraph is about a different point and I have used adverbials to introduce each section. You should do the same.

To conclude, I make an overall judgement and yes either yes, they should have mobile phones or no, they shouldn't. By the end of your argument, it should be very clear which side you are supporting.

### Should children over 8 be allowed to have mobile phones?

Phones are a very important part of today's world. Almost every adult will have some form of mobile device. The world is changing and becoming a place that relies heavily on technology and children are also becoming more exposed to this as they grow up. Hence, the discussion as to whether or not children should have mobile phones is controversial.

(This is my introduction, it's factual and doesn't have much opinion in to sway the reader yet, it's just setting the scene).

Firstly, a major issue with children's health today is that they are not getting enough exercise to live healthy lives. If children have mobile phones, it is possible that they will spend too much time on it and other technological devices, causing them to become overweight and unfit. People say that phones are a great way to strengthen communication between children, however, I

would argue that participating in physical exercise with friends is a far better way of talking and forming relationships.

(See how I undermined a positive of children having mobile phones to make my point stronger?)

Secondly, phones are very unsafe even for adults. Many parents have found themselves getting scammed online by strangers. If it is unsafe for adults, how can it possibly be safe for children? It is ridiculous to assume that children as young as 8 could possibly protect themselves against cyber scammers and online strangers. The internet is simply not safe.

(See how I used extreme language like 'ridiculous' and I also used a rhetorical question. These are both used to make the opposing argument seem silly.)

Finally, mobile phones are materialistic and expensive. Children should not expect products of such cost to be given to them for free. Children are losing their appreciation for their belongings and are receiving too many technological gifts such as iPads, tablets, camera, laptops. The fact is, they don't need them and adults are spoiling them.

(See how I gave lots of really strong, punchy sentences. Really, they are just opinions but when they are said with such confidence, they come across as factual which is persuasive.)

Therefore, children should not be receiving mobile phones until they actually need them for communication purposes and can afford to pay for them themselves.

(A concluding line to finish the argument).

**I AM GOING TO GIVE YOU TWO DAYS TO WRITE THIS!!** But I expect it to be at least an A4 page long. Remember, pick a side. Don't sit on the fence. Use short punchy sentences, be really confident that you and only you are correct, use extreme language and rhetorical questions.

**Convince me.**