

## MOBILE PHONES

The first mobile telephone was invented in the USA in 1947 by the American telephone company AT&T. These phones were big and heavy, and not very practical. They were carried in a suitcase. In the late 1960s they were used as car phones.

5 By 1977, the first mobile phone systems were tested in Chicago, USA, and in Tokyo, Japan. But they didn't become commercially popular until the late 1980s. In just a few years, mobile phones went from being an expensive gadget for businessmen to a necessity for people all over the world, from China to the USA.

10 In the 1990s, mobile phone companies found a new market : teenagers! They offered cheaper prices and colourful accessories to attract them. Today 50 per cent of teenagers say they "could not live without" their mobile phones. Mobile phones are not just for talking. With new technology you can send text messages, take photos, play games and have Internet access with your phone.

15 For many people mobile phones are a status<sup>1</sup> symbol. "They use them to communicate how they feel, and to improve their lives." But in an emergency<sup>2</sup> they can save lives. On 11 September 2001, people trapped<sup>3</sup> in the World Trade Center used their phones to call their family to say goodbye.

Can we do without a mobile phone ?

Adapted from *I Love English* - November 2003

(1) status : position sociale

(2) emergency : urgence

(3) trapped : piégé



4 - Mobile phones are only used for happy events. 1 point

R  .....

W  .....

5 - Mobile phones make people feel better. 1 point

R  .....

W  .....

**II – Compétence linguistique (5 points)**

**A – Recopiez les phrases en mettant le verbe au temps qui convient : (2,5 points)**

1 - Graham Bell (invent) the telephone in 1876. 0,5 point

2 - Teenagers (send) thousands of text messages every day. 0,5 point

3 – In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Graham Bell (not want) to have a phone in his office. 0,5 point

4 - Teenagers (play) video games on the future generation of phones. 0,5 point

5 - Mobile phones (be) popular since the late 1980s. 0,5 point

**B – Retrouvez les questions qui portent sur les mots soulignés : (1,5 point)**

1 - The first mobile phone was invented in 1947. 0,5 point

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2 – Mobile phone companies find new markets every year. 0,5 point

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3 - Colourful accessories have existed since the 1990's. 0,5 point

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**C – Faites des comparaisons en utilisant les adjectifs entre parenthèses, en respectant le sens du texte : (1 point)**

1 - The first mobile phones/modern ones (**big**). 0,5 point

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2 - Modern phones / Bell's phone (**sophisticated**). 0,5 point

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