

For use with "Are You Addicted to Your Phone?" on p. 6 of the magazine

**QUIZ**

## Are You Addicted to Your Phone?

Choose the best answer for each of the following questions. For the analysis section, refer to the article as needed.

### CHECK COMPREHENSION

**1. Who made news in January by writing an open letter to Apple, asking the company to do more to combat smartphone addiction?**

- a the American Academy of Pediatrics
- b two of Apple's largest investors
- c a group of renowned psychologists
- d a group of teens and parents

**2. Which statement about phone addiction is true, based on the article?**

- a So far, the phenomenon appears to be happening only in the United States.
- b About half of U.S. teens say they feel addicted to their phones.
- c Smartphone addiction is a recognized mental disorder.
- d all of the above

**3. According to the article, recent studies suggest that daily use of social media leads to**

- a compromised immune system function.
- b increased rates of gambling addiction.
- c an increase in symptoms of depression.
- d elevated literacy rates.

**4. On average, Americans check their phones**

- a twice a day.
- b once every four hours.
- c once an hour.
- d once every 12 minutes.

### ANALYZE THE TEXT

**5. You can reasonably infer from the section "Millions of Apps" that neuroscience is the study of**

- a addictions.
- b anxiety.
- c the brain.
- d digital technology.

**6. Based on the article, you can infer that the longer you spend on an app on your phone or other digital device, the more the \_\_\_ profits financially.**

- a app developer
- b device maker
- c both a and b
- d neither a nor b

**7. In the article, Edward Spector says, "We have an entire generation of guinea pigs in an experiment." His tone can best be described as**

- a curious.
- b concerned.
- c excited.
- d enraged.

**8. Based on the article, which of these would the group JANA Partners be most likely to argue for?**

- a the marketing of Facebook's new Messenger app to kids as young as 8
- b shutting down China's internet-addiction boot camps
- c Apple implementing greater parental controls on iPhones
- d the elimination of most smartphone parental controls

**IN-DEPTH QUESTIONS** Please use the other side of this paper for your responses.

**9. How would you describe your own phone usage? Do you think it qualifies as an addiction? Explain.**

**10. Based on what you've read, do you think cellphones should be allowed in high school classrooms? What rules, if any, should govern their use in the classroom?**

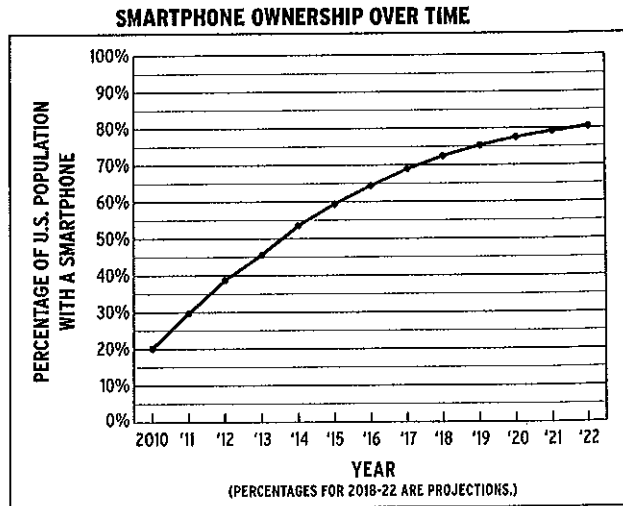
Uses: copy machine, opaque projector, or transparency master for overhead projector. Scholastic Inc. grants teacher-subscribers to The New York Times Upfront permission to reproduce this Skills Sheet for use in their classrooms. ©2018 by Scholastic Inc. All rights reserved.

For use with "Are You Addicted to Your Phone?" on p. 6 of the magazine

**GRAPHS**

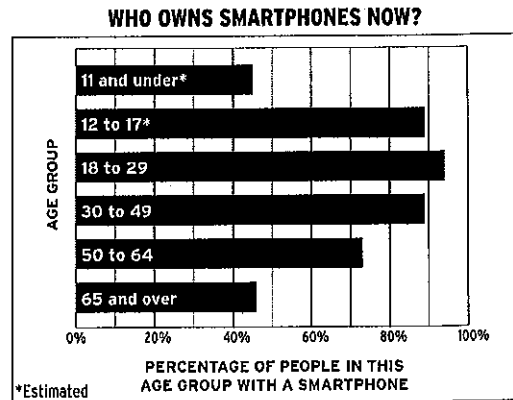
# Smartphone Society

In June 2007, Apple released the first-generation iPhone, the first cellphone with a web browser. This "smartphone"—along with the Android models that soon followed—revolutionized the way people used mobile phones. Cellphones were no longer just for calling or texting; now the devices could be used for countless online activities like shopping, streaming music and videos, job hunting, and social networking. It didn't take long for Americans to get hooked on the new technology. As the line graph at right shows, smartphone use has skyrocketed in recent years and is expected to continue growing. And, as the bar graph suggests, young adults are leading the smartphone charge.



The top graph shows the percentage of Americans with smartphones over time. The bottom graph shows the percentage in each age group that owned a smartphone in 2017.

(Note: The graphs don't include cellphones that aren't smartphones.)



**ANALYZE THE GRAPHS**

- Based on the line graph, about \_\_\_ of the U.S. population currently has a smartphone.
  - 55 percent
  - 60 percent
  - 70 percent
  - 85 percent
- Ownership of smartphones reached about a third of the U.S. population in the year \_\_\_.
  - 2010
  - 2011
  - 2012
  - 2013
- Which age group has the highest percentage of smartphone ownership?
  - 12- to 17-year-olds
  - 18- to 29-year-olds
  - 30- to 49-year-olds
  - 50- to 64-year-olds
- The percentage of smartphone ownership for ages 11 and under is about the same as it is for ages \_\_\_.
  - 12 to 17
  - 30 to 49
  - 50 to 64
  - 65 and over
- From 2018 to 2022, the percentage of Americans owning smartphones is projected to \_\_\_.
  - more than double
  - increase steadily
  - increase by about 20 percentage points
  - fall slightly

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What factors do you think affect an age group's smartphone ownership rates? Do you think the percentage of smartphone users in each age group will change over time? Explain.
- Do you think smartphone addiction affects all age groups? Explain.

SOURCES: LINE GRAPH: STATISTA; BAR GRAPH: PEW RESEARCH (AGES 18 AND OVER); E-MARKETER (AGES 17 AND UNDER), 2017

Uses: copy machine, opaque projector, or transparency master for overhead projector. Scholastic Inc. grants teacher-subscribers to The New York Times (upfront) permission to reproduce this Skills Sheet for use in their classrooms. ©2018 by Scholastic Inc. All rights reserved.