



MATURITA CARD | Technology in Your Pocket

A COMPARE AND CONTRAST

- Look at the pictures on the other side of this card. What does each picture show? What trends, themes or ideas do they represent? What is happening in each picture?
- Compare and contrast them. In what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different?
- How do these pictures make you feel? Do they remind you of anything from your own life and experience?

B ALL ABOUT YOU

- How important is mobile phone technology to you? What do you use a smartphone for and how would your life change without it?
- How do you use social media? What good and bad experiences have you had?
- Do you use any smart devices other than your phone? Talk about your experiences of smart devices and their positives and negatives.
- What technologies – including devices and apps – do you use to help you study? What are their strengths and weaknesses?
- Has your technology use ever brought you into conflict with others (parents, teachers, friends, etc.)? Talk about what happened and how you reacted.

C SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

- In what ways do you think that smartphones have been positive for individuals and society, and in what ways bad? Do you think people of different ages are affected differently? How?
- Would you say that the use of phones and other digital devices has changed within your memory? In what ways, and have these changes been positive or negative?
- There have been big advances in some digital tech areas recently, such as the growth of AI. Talk about one such trend and its implications.
- What do you know about laws, restrictions and bans affecting devices, apps and technology services (in any country)? What do you think about them?
- If you were a parent, what rules about devices, apps and technology services would you make? What about if you were the head teacher at a school? The prime minister?
- Think of a device, app or technology service you use regularly. What changes would you make to improve it? How would this affect different users' experiences?
- How does the use of personal computing technology (including but not limited to smartphones) affect the environment? What, if anything, should be done about this? Whose responsibility should it be and why?
- What are some of the security and safety concerns around tech devices, apps and services? What are your opinions on these?

D WHAT IS....?

Give a definition of each of these terms.

- smart device
- right to repair
- censorship
- content moderation
- VPN
- addiction
- assistive technology
- push notifications
- tracking
- spyware

E QUOTE, UNQUOTE

"The challenge for a human now is to be more interesting to another than his or her smartphone."
Alain de Botton

"When I was a chain smoker, I used to wake up and the first thing I'd do was reach for a cigarette, basically. And now I do the same thing for a smartphone."
Charlie Brooker

"Smartphones are not just gadgets. They have become an extension of our being, a key to the world we live in."
Jerry Yang

"I possess a device, in my pocket, that is capable of accessing the entirety of information known to man. I use it to look at pictures of cats and get into arguments with strangers."
Ian Leslie

"There will come a time when it isn't 'They're spying on me through my phone' anymore. Eventually, it will be 'My phone is spying on me.'"
Philip K. Dick

"The number one benefit of information technology is that it empowers people to do what they want to do. It lets people be creative. It lets people learn things they didn't think they could learn before."
Steve Ballmer