

SAMPLE YEAR 5 PERSUASIVE TEXT RESPONSES

Topic: Children under 12 should not be allowed to have a mobile phone.

Sample 1 (BELOW AVERAGE RESPONSE)

Constant spelling errors

Arguments all run together

I agree with that topic becace kids that age do not reilly now how to look arfter a mobile phone. They are not old enogh to relise that it is a very expesiv thing that shold be kept safe at all times. Some kids would take they're phone to school and could loose it. Someone else could find it and keep it and make lots of calls wich meens the kids parents would have to pay for all the calls the person how stole it made. They mite take it to the beach or the pool and drop it in the warter making it never werk again. They could even drop it in the toilet like my mum did and that would mean it is recked for ever!!!!!! It takes ages to get a new on and then they would just loose it agen!!!!

Kids under 12 are allways runing around and playing so they could esily drop it somewhere and never find it again. A dog could even pick it up and carry it away never to be seen again!!!! So never let kids have mobile phones or you will be sorry!!

Little understanding of paragraphing

- ◇ Offers a position on the topic although simplistic
- ◇ Some correct use of text structure but evidence is lacking, ideas are mainly assertions
- ◇ Attempts to use some persuasive devices such as emotive language
- ◇ Simplistic use of vocabulary
- ◇ Poor understanding of paragraphing
- ◇ Sentences use simple connectives but lack sophistication
- ◇ Demonstrates incorrect use of exclamation marks
- ◇ Many common words spelt incorrectly (because, really, again)

Sample 2:
(MIDDLE RANGE RESPONSE)

Largely accurate spelling

I do not agree with the topic because I think that there are many benfits for a child under 12 to have a mobile phone. Their parents would have to teach them to only use it in the right way thogh. Here is a list of the reasons why I think it would be OK.

Firstly, if the child is doing homework and they need some help, they can call their friends to help them with the problem they are having. Also, if the mobile phone has internet acess, they can use it to reserch facts for school projects. That would mean that the infomation is correct and they would do a much better job than if they had no internet acess.

Controlled use of paragraphing

Secondly, a mobile phone lets children talk to their friends without using the home phone. So, everyone else in the family can use the home phone whenever they want. Then the child wont get into truble for talking too much!

Well structured arguments, each well supported by detail

Thirdly, the child could do certain jobs around the home to earn money to help pay the mobile phone bills. This can teach them how to be reponsable and means they can grow up to know what it is like to do hard work for a reward. It also means their parents are proud of them for helping out around the house.

Finally, a mobile phone can help a child stay safe because if they ever get separated from their parents like at a concert or in a shoping center, they can just call their mum or dad and tell them where they are so that they can find them easily. This would mean that the child stays safe and that is the most important thing, don't you think?

Having a mobile phone when you are under 12 years old can be really great as long as it is used in the right way.

- ◇ Engages audience with a clearly stated opinion
- ◇ Provides details that reflect personal values
- ◇ Structure offers clear introduction, well developed body and effective conclusion that restates position
- ◇ Offers elaborated ideas although reasoning is based on assertions
- ◇ Effective use of persuasive devices (e.g. firstly... secondly etc)
- ◇ Emotive language used to appeal to reader's sense of responsibility (e.g. keeping children safe)
- ◇ Vocabulary supports the position, although somewhat simplistic
- ◇ Cohesive text with varied use of sentence types
- ◇ Spelling is consistent, with minimal errors

Sample 3:
(ABOVE AVERAGE RESPONSE)

Confidence to disagree with topic

Would you put your child in danger? Of course not, that's why I definitely agree with the statement that children under 12 should not be allowed to have a mobile phone. Mobile phones are dangerous in many different ways and to allow a young child to own and use one can prove a disaster.

Few serious errors

One of the main reasons that children under 12 should not have a mobile phone is because of the simple fact that mobile phones emit a powerful radiation that can cause sever headaches or even brain tumours. Television shows such as '60 Minutes' and 'Today Tonight' have shown segments saying that studies show that too much mobile phone use can effect the brain. Letting children under 12 use them could be putting them at risk of brain cancer that could cause death. Some argue that this may not be true however I believe it is better to be safe than sorry.

Ability to develop an argument from assertion to evidence

Another reason that mobile phones put children at risk is that if they are too busy talking on a mobile phone when they are walking around the community, they could be distracted and not see a car or train aproaching and be severly injured or even die. Many kids have been hit by cars or trains when they haven't been paying attention.

Of course another very dangerous reason is that most mobile phones these day have access to the internet and many children could see and read websites that are inapropriate. As a result, this could really upset them especially if they saw things that children should not see. Also, it gives them a chance to sign up to chat rooms or Facebook. This can be dangerous because there are lots of people out there who pretend to be kids when they're not and they try to meet up with kids to hurt or even kill them.

Awareness or more sophisticated issues

Neat summation

There is no way that parents should let their child under 12 have a mobile phone if they want to protect them from the many dangers I have just listed above.

- ◇ Effectively engages the reader by using direct address in opening paragraph
- ◇ Structural components are well developed
- ◇ Relevant evidence is used to support ideas
- ◇ Effective use of persuasive devices (e.g. some argue, as a result, I believe)
- ◇ Includes emotive language (e.g. prove a disaster) and a relevant proverb (It's better to be safe than sorry)
- ◇ Attempts to use topic and summary sentences in well ordered paragraphs

- ◇ Uses a variety of sentence types (simple, complex, compound)
- ◇ High level vocabulary used (e.g. emit, severely, inappropriate)
- ◇ Mostly correct punctuation use including commas and quotation marks (e.g. '60 Minutes')
- ◇ Common words consistently spelt correctly and many difficult words spelt correctly (e.g. dangerous, tumours)