



Mobiles in class ppt: Teacher's notes and KEY

PPT debate; Using mobiles in class

.Topic: Technology, Mobile phones

Activity type: Speaking, debate, writing

Level: B1+

Time: 30m

Language focus: Language for agreeing and disagreeing, Language of mobile phone use.

Beginning-of-course activity to introduce a discussion/negotiation of mobile phone use during class time.

Different cultures and (perhaps especially) different age groups have different ideas about the correct etiquette for the use of mobile devices during class time. Although I have embraced the use of mobiles in class in recent years (no point in trying to hold back the tide), there is still behaviour I would consider rude, but my (young adult) learners might not. I find it useful to negotiate a working protocol towards the beginning of the course so that everybody knows where they stand. It's also a great discussion topic, as there are as many opinions as there are mobile users!

Suggested procedure(s)

This ppt is fairly self-explanatory and can be used independently to initiate a discussion on the (mis)use of mobiles in class time. However, I find it works better after students have had some input from the TED talks and have more ideas about the subject.

There are three ways to use the activities in combination:

1. Whole class activity.
Watch one (or both if you have time) of the TED talks related to mobile devices (Adam Alter or Anastasia Dedyukhina). If you do this in class, use the ppt versions to save paper. Then use the ppt discussion activity on using mobiles in class.
2. Jigsaw Listening (in class)
If you have two classrooms available, separate the class into two groups and assign each group one of the TED talks to watch. One student can 'control' the video, so the learners can repeat sections as many times as they wish and discuss answers together. The teacher moves back and forth between the classes to monitor / deal with problems.

Please note the Adam Alter talk is shorter, but Dedyukhina, as a clear, fluent ELF speaker, is probably much easier to follow so in my experience they groups haven't differed excessively in the time taken to complete the tasks. It's probably easier to use the paper version of the worksheets in this format, as learners will be working independently of the teacher most of the time.



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The groups reconvene and pairs of group A and group B students summarise the content of their talks to each other before starting the discussion on using Mobile in class.

3. Jigsaw Listening (flipped classroom version)

Divide the class into two groups and assign each group one of the TED talks related to mobile devices (Adam Alter or Anastasia Dedyukhina). Give them (or upload) the corresponding student worksheet and ask them to watch the talk and complete the exercises as homework.

In the following class put students from the two different groups in pairs to summarise the talks they have watched to each other. Ask them if they found any points in common.

Then move on to the group discussion on using mobiles in class.

Mobile phone 'contract'

In the final stage of the discussion, the group (and the teacher) have to negotiate what is and isn't acceptable regarding use of mobiles in class. As the group agrees on each point, copy it on the whiteboard (e.g. on google drive) so that it is displayed for all the learners to see. This will help them to negotiate specific wording.

Alternatively, ask the learners to write up the list and sign it, as an indication of their acceptance of this "code of conduct".

Once they have all agreed, it is a nice final flourish to print out the final document (for the next class if you can't do it immediately) and have all the learners sign it.

Then display it somewhere in the room as a reminder when you notice someone 'breaking the rules'.