

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Cell Phones

Cell phones are mobile hand-held devices that can be used to contact people next door or in the next country.

Each cell-phone service provider has a network of bases, or cell sites. These sites have antennas on towers, poles or buildings to receive radio waves. When a call is made, voice and data are sent to and received at the nearest cell site which is about 1/2 to 10 miles away. From there, they go to a switching site and then to the phone being called (if it is on the same network) or to the public telephone network, which connects to other service provider's networks. As phone users move around, the phone automatically connects to the nearest cell site.

Radio-telephones on ships, aircraft and military vehicles in the 1940s were the first type of mobile phone. In the United States, the first cellular system was created in 1977, it was tested in 1978 in Chicago and in 1981 in the Washington-Baltimore area. In 1982, the Federal Communications Commission let commercial service providers set up businesses.

Until the late 1980s, cell phones could only be used in certain places and were so expensive and so big that they were usually installed in cars for business use. When new technology led to smaller and smaller phones that could be used across different service provider's networks and countries, the number of users increased and the price dropped. Today, countless adults, teenagers and even children use them. India and China have the highest growth in numbers of cell phone users.

Cell phones ringing at unsuitable times and people talking too loudly on them have caused libraries, theaters and churches to ban their use. People who talk on them while driving are more likely to get into an accident. The phone's poor security systems make it possible to listen in on other people's conversations.

### Section A: Fill in the blanks below.

1. Cell phones are \_\_\_\_\_ hand held devices.
2. The first types of mobile phones were made in the 1940s for \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Cellular systems were tested in \_\_\_\_\_ in 1978.
4. Cell phones were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the 1980s.
5. People are not allowed to use cell phones in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Cell Phones

### Section B:

**Circle True or False to each question.**

- |                                                                               |      |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|
| 1. Cell phones are portable devices.                                          | True | False |
| 2. When you make a call, your voice is sent to a cell site.                   | True | False |
| 3. You must be within 10 miles of a cell site to make a call.                 | True | False |
| 4. A person's call stays at one cell site even when they are moving around.   | True | False |
| 5. Your call goes from a switching site to a cell site.                       | True | False |
| 6. Ships, aircraft and military vehicles used the first type of mobile phone. | True | False |
| 7. Cell phones used to be compact but now they are too big.                   | True | False |
| 8. You shouldn't use a cell phone in a library, theater or in a church.       | True | False |

### Section C: Answer the questions below.

1. Do you know anyone who has a cell phone?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Who is there provider?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Can they make unlimited phone calls?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Cell Phones - Answers

### Section A:

1. mobile
2. ships, aircraft, military vehicles
3. Chicago
4. big, expensive
5. theaters, libraries, churches

### Section B:

- |                                                                               |      |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|
| 1. Cell phones are portable devices.                                          | True | False |
| 2. When you make a call, your voice is sent to a cell site.                   | True | False |
| 3. You must be within 10 miles of a cell site to make a call.                 | True | False |
| 4. A person's call stays at one cell site even when they are moving around.   | True | False |
| 5. Your call goes from a switching site to a cell site.                       | True | False |
| 6. Ships, aircraft and military vehicles used the first type of mobile phone. | True | False |
| 7. Cell phones used to be compact but now they are too big.                   | True | False |
| 8. You shouldn't use a cell phone in a library, theater or in a church.       | True | False |