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Impact of Mobile phones on Uganda's Society

For purposes of general paper discussion is to guide students on answering following likely questions

- (i) Assess the impact of mobile phones on the Uganda's Society; which calls for advantages and disadvantages; at least five of each.

Remainder

- (i) General paper questions calls for general knowledge and ability to use the English language to support general arguments rather than giving factual answers.
- (ii) Each point should be stated in full statement, described/all explained and illustrated with an example where necessary to earn full marks (3marks)
- (iii) Points should be rewritten in full paragraphs rather lists
- (iv) Answers to each question should be introduced by explaining the key terms.
- (v) The essay should be between 500 and 800 words; if lack words, addition words can easily be created by the use of redundant statements like however, in spite of, fortunately,

Definition of key terms

A mobile phone is a **wireless handheld communication device** that allows users to make and receive calls. Depending on the phone's form factor and features, a mobile phone may also be referred to as a cellular phone (cell phone) or smartphone.

Positive impacts

Mobile phones are handy and are the fastest way of sending and receiving information in form of audio calls, video calls, short messages (SMS), and mails. They are frequently used in emergencies to parents and all medical doctors in case of sickness for help. We often use them to call UMEME in case of power shut down. And frequently use phones to call each other for chats, inquiries and information.

Phones have eased communication especially for people who cannot read and write. Previously one had to send messages through letter or oral information through intermediary person. Using letter it was hectic since one had to draft the letter and carry it to the post office, that is, if one had Post Office Address, and pay. Wait for days to month for the letter to reach its destination or to receive a response. Sending messages through intermediary person also had issues such security for information and alteration of verbal messages.

Today teachers and students use their mobile phones to access vast amount information inform of research papers, notes, videos, tutorials and interactive lessons through the internet. It is now possible for student to carry out a successful self-study on any topic in any subject at ease any time.

To the economic sector, phones are the way of doing business, through E-marketing, E-payment, sending and receiving invoices, advertising of their products. It so cheap to advertise your goods, place orders, pay for goods using mobile phones compared the traditional method such as using radios and television and post services.

When it comes to the social sector phone are versatile devices that are used to watch entertainments, to express opinions on the social media, for chatting, romancing, finding sexual partners, name it.

Others

- Reduced communication cost and cost of doing business
- Storage of important information, photos, videos etc. for future reference
- Facilitated the payments of school fees and utilities (water, electricity, tv, etc)

Negative impacts

Phones have created massive unemployment in many sectors. For instance, there is a significant reduction of cashiers in banks, workers in post offices, teachers involved in couching exercise, number of books printers and others.

Phones cause a lot of distraction at work and reduced work efficiency. This occurs when employees and employers spend significant amount of time attending to the frequent popup messages, social media **gossips** and entertainments rather than paying attention their work or customers.

Phones are very expensive and easily stolen. This coupled with the high cost for data this eats up a big share of income for many low and middle class people. It common to find a student using his/her lunch money to buy data and stay hungry the whole day.

Phones pose high cyber security risks. Increased reliance on phone usage makes businesses and people vulnerable to cyber-attacks, data breaches, and other security threats. Many people have reportedly been conned of their money, others abused, threatened, name it.

People especially youth are being exposed to many bath habits such as pornography, abusive language, gambling habits and behaviors like cheating and stealing.

Others

- **Digital Divide:** Not everyone has equal access to phones/ICT, which can exacerbate social inequalities.
- **Privacy Concerns:** The use of ICT in social services often involves handling sensitive personal data that may be pirated.
- **Social Isolation:** Over-reliance on digital communication can lead to social isolation.
- **Mental Health Issues:** Excessive use of ICT, particularly social media, has been linked to mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, and stress.
- **Dependence on Technology:** Over-reliance on ICT can lead to a lack of basic skills and knowledge.
- **Resource Intensive:** Implementing and maintaining ICT systems can be costly and resource-intensive.
- Addition leading poor time management when excess time is spent on the internet
- High cost of data
- Inaccurate information
- Exposure to pornography leading to early sex and unplanned pregnancy
- May contract
- Information overload

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Thanks

Dr. Bbosa Science