

## Reaction questions for "Are Texters Under the Thumb of Cell Phones?"

1. Explain what you think the phrase "under the thumb" means?  
What is the irony of the use of "thumb"?
2. Explain the recent news event that sparked the writing of this feature article.
3. Describe what Jessica Curnes says that could indicate that she might really be addicted to her cell phone?
4. The writers suggest that although the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders doesn't recognize "technology addiction", maybe it should. What do you think? Is "technology addiction" real?
5. Why does the reporter use the word "appendages" when he wrote, "What's left to ponder is how, in a few short years, mobile devices became such vital appendages that we can't go many minutes without them."?
6. What does critic Michael Bugeja say that cell phones convey?

Explain why you agree or disagree.

7. What does this article state that the "gadget" (cell phone) is always saying to its owner?
8. What was the increase of worldwide text-messaging from 2005-2009?
9. What does ISU's Scott Mcleod state that cell phones have removed?  
What does he mean by that?
10. What does Mcleod feel we cannot expect of society?
11. What do you think of the idea that, "Soon advertisers will be able to map your location and provide coupons when you pass your favorite coffee shop."
12. What is the "very powerful function" of cell phones?

What makes that function so "powerful"?

(flip over to side two)