

Name: _____ Date: _____

Go to Scope
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Vocabulary:

"Would You Implant Your Phone in Your Brain?"

1. impact (IM-pakt, im-PAKT) *noun or verb*; As a noun, *impact* (IM-pakt) can mean "the act of one object colliding with another," as in "The water balloon burst open upon impact with the ground." It can also mean "a strong influence or effect," as in "My soccer coach has had a positive impact on my life."

As a verb, *impact* (im-PAKT) can mean "to hit something with great force" as in "The meteorite impacted the Earth." It can also mean "to have a strong effect on someone or something." A powerful speech might impact the way you think about something.

2. implant (im-PLANT) *verb*; As it is used in the article, *implant* is a medical term that means "to place something in a person's body by means of surgery," as in "Doctors implanted a device in my cousin's ear to help him hear better."

3. infinite (IN-fuh-nit) *adjective*; The adjective *finite* (FAHY-nahyt) means "having limits" or "measurable." If you're playing a quiz game with a timer, your time to answer each question is finite. The prefix *in-* means "not." *Infinite* means "endless, having no limits, or not measurable," although it can also mean "*seeming* to have no limits." Someone who is really, really, really patient could be said to have infinite patience.

4. sinister (SIN-uh-stur) *adjective*; Something that is sinister seems evil, dangerous, or threatening, as in "Sinister black clouds filled the sky" or "Voldemort is a sinister wizard."

Directions: In the space below, list any other words from the article whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the primary meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence using the word.

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Directions: Choose the word or phrase that is most similar in meaning to each word in bold.

1. impact

- Ⓐ strike
- Ⓑ ignore

2. sinister

- Ⓐ evil
- Ⓑ lucky

3. infinite

- Ⓐ limited
- Ⓑ never-ending

4. implant

- Ⓐ insert
- Ⓑ remove

Directions: Choose the best answer to each question.

5. Which could be described as infinite?

- Ⓐ ways to show kindness
- Ⓑ the number of apples in a small basket

7. Which is an example of an impact in football?

- Ⓐ Two players slam into one another.
- Ⓑ A coach calls a time-out.

6. Which sentence uses *implant* correctly?

- Ⓐ "I'm going to the dentist on Friday to have an artificial tooth implanted."
- Ⓑ "I'm going to the library on Friday to implant some new books."

8. Which sentence uses *sinister* correctly?

- Ⓐ "It's so sinister when my cute little kitten curls up in my lap."
- Ⓑ "The bad guy in the movie had a sinister grin."

Directions: Respond to each prompt below.

9. List three things you would want an infinite supply of.

10. Describe a house that has a sinister appearance.

11. Describe how a particular book, movie, or song has impacted you in some way.

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Write an Argument Essay

Directions: Read "Would You Implant Your Phone in Your Brain?" Complete the essay kit on page 27.
Then follow the steps below.

STEP 1: DECIDE WHAT YOU THINK

Would you implant your phone in your brain?

Consider what you read in the article, as well as your own viewpoints.
Check the box next to the point of view you will argue in your essay.
Or write your own opinion in the space provided.

☐ **Yes!**

☐ **No!**

☐

STEP 2: GATHER SUPPORT FOR YOUR OPINION

Look at what you wrote in the "Yes" and "No" columns on page 27. Which points support your opinion?
What other information supports your opinion? List at least three supporting details on the lines below.

Here's an example: If you would NOT implant your phone in your brain, one of your supporting details might be that advertisers could figure out how to access your personal thoughts, feelings, and memories.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

STEP 3: ACKNOWLEDGE THE OTHER SIDE

If you **WOULD** implant your phone in your brain, summarize the strongest arguments of those who think a smartphone implant is not a good idea. If you **WOULD NOT** implant your phone in your brain, summarize the main reasons some think that a smartphone implant is a good idea.

STEP 4: CRAFT YOUR THESIS (CENTRAL CLAIM)

The thesis is where you tell readers what your essay is going to be about. The thesis should be a clear, strong statement of the opinion you gave in Step 1. The rest of your essay will support this thesis.

Your thesis: _____

STEP 5: WRITE YOUR HOOK

The beginning of your essay is called the hook because it "hooks" your readers' attention. The hook should relate to the topic of your essay, but it can take many forms. It can be:

- 1. An anecdote** (a very short story): Tell a story that supports your point of view. For example, if you want to make the point that a phone implant would be more convenient than a hand-held phone, you might describe a time when you damaged your phone or left it behind by accident.
- 2. A surprising fact:** Find a fact that will raise your readers' eyebrows. Several surprising facts are included in the article. You can also do some research to find one that is not included in the article.
- 3. A rhetorical question** (a question to which you don't expect an answer): Ask your readers a question that reflects your point of view. Here's one way you could structure your question:
"Do our phones really need to be _____?"
- 4. A quote:** Find a thought-provoking quote that relates to the topic of your essay.

Choose one of the ideas above, or use your own idea, and write a hook on the lines provided.

Your hook: _____

Let readers know a little about the issue you will be writing about. This is not your point of view; it's a brief summary of the issue. Finish the summary of the debate over phone implants that begins below.

This image shows a full page of primary-ruled paper. It features ten sets of horizontal lines across the page. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The paper is otherwise blank, with no text or other markings.

On the next page, you'll find guidelines for how to organize your essay.

Argument Essay Outline

Directions: Use the outline below to write your essay. You will use what you wrote on the first three pages of this activity.

1

INTRODUCTION

Open with your hook from Step 5.



Write a transition sentence that relates your hook to the question of whether it would be a good idea to implant your phone in your brain.



(See *Scope's* handout "Great Transitions" for some ways to link your ideas.)



Write your summary of the issue from Step 6.



Finish with your thesis from Step 4.

2

BODY PARAGRAPH(S)

**Now write your supporting points from Step 2.
For each one, write 1-3 sentences that
provide additional details.**

You can put your supporting points and detail sentences together in one paragraph or you can split them into several paragraphs. It depends on how much you want to write about each point.

***Hint!** Order your supporting points from weakest to strongest. Readers will best remember details that are presented last.*

3

ACKNOWLEDGE THE OTHER SIDE

Now it's time to recognize the other side of the argument.

Use what you wrote in Step 3.

Then explain why you think the opposing point of view is wrong.

4

CONCLUSION

**Write 2-3 sentences to remind your readers
of your main points.**

Finish with a strong final sentence.

***Need an idea?**
Refer to your hook,
find a quote, or give
a call to action.*

5

READ AND REVISE

Use *Scope's* "Argument-Essay Checklist" to evaluate and edit what you have written.

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