

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

“HAVE YOU GOT THIS PHONE IN RED?”

What do you think influences people the most when choosing a mobile phone? Is it the variety of functions it can perform, the brand name or the price? Or is it instead the way it looks? For many people, the design is the most important thing. People buy their mobile phones because of how they look, and for the image they project to others.

5 There are three main mobile phone styles. The most basic is the oblong “candy bar”, which has usually got an uncovered keypad and screen. The flip-phone, or “clamshell”, protects the keypad and screen when closed, and flips open for use. The slim “jackknife” turns open to reveal a screen and keypad. Some candy-bar models can be “dressed” in easy-to-change colourful plastic or fabric covers. Some clamshells, when closed, resemble sports cars. And jackknife styles are getting ever thinner.

10 But these styles may soon give way to completely new designs as mobile makers use the latest wireless technology to devise fashion accessories that are actually phones. For example, Joe Dvorak of Motorola, one of the largest mobile phone producers, thinks that “the most common mobile phone shapes in the future” will be worn on the wrist or sewn into clothing. In fact, “watch-phones” are already being produced and sold in Japan, and are popular with consumers. Other ideas that companies are developing, or have introduced in small quantities, include mobile phone jewellery, such as necklaces and pins. Also
15 on the way are sunglasses that act both as a mobile phone headset and a “screen” on which to display text messages.

The continued pairing of appealing design and sophisticated technology will definitely offer some interesting versions of what Motorola staff like to call “the device formerly known as the mobile phone”.

1 Are the following statements T (true) or F (false)? Find evidence in the text to support your answers.

- 1. Many people choose a mobile phone only according to its looks.
.....
..... 2. The “sports car” is a basic mobile phone style.
.....
..... 3. “Watch-phones” aren’t yet available to the public.
.....

2 Complete the sentences using the information given in the text. Use your own words as far as possible.

1. Plastic or fabric covers
.....
2. Mobile phone jewellery such as necklaces and pins
.....
.....

3 Answer the question.

How will wearers of the sunglasses mentioned in the text be able to read text messages?
.....

4 Choose the best meaning for each word or phrase.

1. reveal (line 7)
 - a. hide
 - b. show
 - c. open
2. give way to (line 10)
 - a. be replaced by
 - b. allow to go first
 - c. look like
3. pairing (line 18)
 - a. combining
 - b. separating
 - c. introducing
4. formerly (line 19)
 - a. presently
 - b. secretly
 - c. previously

5 Write a composition of about 100-120 words. Choose one option.

1. Write a formal letter to a company describing an idea that you have got for a new mobile phone.
2. In your opinion, what are the most important things to consider when buying a mobile phone? Explain your reasons.