

Do the preparation exercise first. Then, read the text about Smartphones and the weather and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a – h next to the number 1 – 8.

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|--------|---------------|----|---|
| 1..... | a sensor | a. | a mobile phone which can do many things that a computer can do |
| 2..... | the average | b. | clever or intelligent |
| 3..... | an app | c. | an electronic device which can detect things like heat or sound |
| 4..... | smart | d. | an application or program, especially on a mobile phone or tablet, which can do a specific thing |
| 5..... | a smartphone | e. | a way of counting something using mathematics |
| 6..... | a crowd | f. | the result you get by adding several numbers together and then dividing this total by how many numbers there are, e.g. the _____ of 6, 7 and 8 is 7 |
| 7..... | data | g. | a large group of people |
| 8..... | a calculation | h. | information |

1. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the correct option to complete the sentences.

- In the UK, ...
 - almost all adults have a smartphone.
 - more than half of all adults already have a smartphone.
 - more than half of all adults will soon have a smartphone.
- The company OpenSignal from London ...
 - has invented a smartphone which tells you what the weather is like in your area.
 - has an online weather service which can tell you about the weather where you live.
 - invented technology which can measure the Earth's magnetic field.
- To collect the correct temperature for London ...
 - many smartphone users are needed.
 - one smartphone user is enough.
 - an average calculation is not needed.

4. With the new app ...
- you can use a world map to send information about the weather.
 - you can use a world map to look for information about the weather.
 - you can use a world map to find your way around any location.
5. Samuel Johnston says ...
- his company are trying to get as many users as possible.
 - his company do not have much information at the moment.
 - his company have not got enough people who use the online service.
6. The idea of collecting information from a lot of people ...
- is something new.
 - is not very exciting.
 - is not a new idea.

2. Check your understanding: gap fill

Complete the sentences with a phrase from the box.

for now	was to	the better	explains	as big a	so that
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1. The online service takes information from smartphones and maps it online _____ we can find out what the weather is like in our area.
2. The next step _____ invent a calculation to make an average of battery temperatures.
3. As Samuel Johnston at OpenSignal _____, 'It is helping to show what the weather is like for everybody.'
4. _____ it's all about increasing the number of users we have.
5. 'We are trying to build up _____ bank of information as we can.'
6. The more people use the app, _____ it will work.

Discussion

Do you have a smartphone? What do you use it for?

What other useful information could smartphones gather in the future?