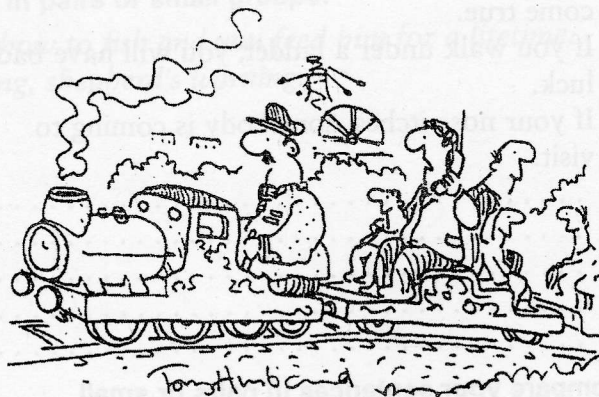


# I'm on the train!

## Discussion

Work in pairs or small groups. Discuss these questions:

1. Do you have a mobile phone? If not, why not?
2. How many people do you know who don't have a mobile phone?
3. If you have a mobile phone, do you use it for both calls and texting? How often?
4. What is the most embarrassing situation in which your mobile phone has rung?
5. What is the most embarrassing situation in which someone else's mobile phone has rung?
6. What is the most irritating ring tone you have heard?
7. What is the most amusing ring tone you have heard?



"Hello - yeah - I'm on the train."

## Reading

Read the article and tick (✓) the correct sentence below:

- The writer thinks:
- a. too many people have mobile phones.
  - b. mobile phones are fantastic.
  - c. people worry about how to behave with a mobile phone.

### FULLY MOBILE

True stories or urban myths? Everyone has tales about mobiles – but they always happen to someone else.

Have you heard the one about the pregnant woman on the train? She was sitting opposite some bloke, who was talking noisily and at length into his mobile. She started to go into labour and asked to borrow his phone to call her doctor. He refused. Why? Well, positively writhing with embarrassment, he was forced to admit his phone wasn't real.

Or how about the boxer in a restaurant loudly negotiating the terms of his next fight into a phone which suddenly rang? Or the Italian priest who interrupted a religious ceremony to take a call?

Everyone has a story, but almost everyone has a mobile too. Mobile ownership is now well over 50% in the UK, and heading ever closer to Finland where a remarkable 75% of the population own a mobile.

Are we put off by potential health risks? No. What about the possibility of being mugged for our phone? It won't happen to me. Or how about the thought that we might look a complete idiot on the 6.15 from Paddington saying 'I'm on the train'. Good heavens, no! Not me! For me they're an endless source of amusement and fascination. In fact, I'm in mobile heaven.

## Discussion

Work in pairs. Discuss these questions:

1. What risks or dangers are mentioned in the article? Can you think of any other risks or dangers not mentioned?
2. Do you think the stories in the article are true or not? Do you know of any similar stories?