When your Grandparents were your age, information exchange took place either by talking to one another face-to-face or on the telephone, or sending handwritten letters writing to one another. Nowadays, a lot of our information exchange involves some element of ICT, except for talking face-to-face, which you’ll get to do lots of in this activity! Below are some ideas to help you understand more about information exchange using mobile phones:

Mobile Phones
The mobile phone is a long-range, portable electronic device used for communication and information exchange on the go! Mobile phones can be inexpensive, easy to use and be equipped with many features and applications (apps). Mobile phones can be ‘lifesavers’ as they can help people in emergencies. If you, or someone you are with, are lost or in danger, you can use a mobile phone to call for help.

Mobile phones help us to communicate with others over a long distance and can be both economical and essential for travellers who want to stay connected. Mobile phones were only invented in the 1980s, when they were very different from those we use today. They were big and heavy, expensive and not very reliable. Now they are pocket sized and full of extra features, which means not only can we talk to our friends and family, but we can text and/or email them and send music, video clips, photos and web links! Smart phones not only keep us in touch with the people we know, they also keep us in touch with the rest of the world. We can use Internet connectivity wherever we go for live news updates, social networking, access to live and recorded TV and radio, as well as online browsing and shopping.

Mobile phones are a wonderful invention that allow you to communicate with people anywhere in the world, but their rapid development and popularity have also led to a decline in social development and an increase in youth crime. The more up-to-date your phone and its functionality, the greater the appeal to steal. As mobiles have become more like pocket sized personal computers, the value to potential thieves is not only in the valuable handset and the apps, images and music saved in them, but also the potential to access the personal information it may contain.
1. Write down what you have found out about using mobile phones for information exchange.
2. Imagine you have the latest smartphone. Explain how and when you use your mobile.

A. Talking?

B. Texting

C. Social networking?

D. Listening to music?

E. Surfing the web?

F. Taking photos and video with the camera?

G. Using apps?

H. Playing games?