Solutions

Marking: **B1** one mark for each correct point; writing tasks are marked by levels for **Content** (task points covered and developed, right register for the reader) and **Language** (range, accuracy, organisation).

Each answer shows the evidence or plan, then the **result**.

2.1

- **argumentative**: *Do you agree?*
- **discursive**: advantages **and** disadvantages

2.2

- for, e.g. students could **express their personality**; families save on buying special clothes
- against, e.g. uniform makes everyone **equal** and avoids pressure to wear expensive brands; it is quicker to get ready

2.3

- e.g. **"It could be argued that phones distract students from their studies."**

3.1

B

3.2

(a) two for and two against, e.g.:

- for: research and learning apps in lessons; contacting parents in an emergency; calculators, timetables and dictionaries in one device
- against: distraction in lessons; cyberbullying and photos taken without permission; less face-to-face talk at break

(b) Content (6): 5–6 a clear introduction, both sides (or a sustained argument) developed with examples, a conclusion with a justified view; 3–4 relevant points with some development; 1–2 few points, little development. Language (6): 5–6 a range of discursive language and linkers, accurate, well organised; 3–4 some range, errors do not block meaning; 1–2 simple language, frequent errors.

Model (157 words):

Mobile phones are now part of almost every teenager's life, so it is not surprising that many students want to use them at school. However, the question divides opinion.

Supporters argue that phones can be valuable learning tools. Students can look up information instantly, use language apps or record experiments in science. In addition, a phone allows students to contact their parents quickly if there is an emergency.

On the other hand, critics point out that phones are a major distraction. It is difficult to concentrate on a lesson when messages keep arriving. Furthermore, phones can be used for cyberbullying, and some students take photos of others without permission.

On balance, I believe phones should be allowed, but only under clear rules. Teachers could permit them for specific tasks in lessons, while they stay in bags at other times. In this way, schools would gain the benefits without the problems.