

**ANALYZE & EVALUATE CLAIMS**

For use with "Are Smartphones Making Us Stupid?" on p. 22 of the magazine

# Analyzing Authors' Claims

Read the debate about smartphones on p. 22, then follow the directions below to analyze each author's claims and decide who makes a stronger case.

<p><b>AUTHOR: Andrew Keen</b> Author, <i>The Internet Is Not the Answer</i></p>	<p><b>AUTHOR: David Weinberger</b> Berkman Center for Internet &amp; Society, Harvard University</p>
<p><b>Author's main claim or argument in the debate:</b></p>	<p><b>Author's main claim or argument in the debate:</b></p>
<p><b>REASON 1:</b> Name one reason the author gives for his claim.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 1.</p>	<p><b>REASON 1:</b> Name one reason the author gives for his claim.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 1.</p>
<p><b>REASON 2:</b> Name another reason the author presents.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 2.</p>	<p><b>REASON 2:</b> Name another reason the author presents.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 2.</p>
<p><b>REASON 3:</b> Name a third reason the author presents.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 3.</p>	<p><b>REASON 3:</b> Name a third reason the author presents.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 3.</p>
<p><b>What persuasive devices does the author use?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Appeals to emotions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Uses data or scholarly research</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tells why the other side's argument is weak</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>	<p><b>What persuasive devices does the author use?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Appeals to emotions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Uses data or scholarly research</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tells why the other side's argument is weak</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>

**EVALUATE:** Which author do you think makes his case more effectively? Do you spot any weaknesses—like a bias or missing information—in either argument? Explain on a separate sheet of paper.

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