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The Invention of The Cell Phone

1970s: the year that cell phones started to transform the world. The invention that clearly revolutionized communication, social connections, relations between countries and also the way that users act. It took almost completely the function made by letters (which took a long time to get where it needed) and now it turned into simple actions: press the screen or a button, and the information will automatically go to the other person. Additionally, it also allows messages and general information to reach more than one person at the same time. This invention became a need in almost everything that humans do: to wake up (we use the alarm), to eat (we ask for food or see some kind of recipe online) or even to drink water (apps that send reminders for it), besides all social relations and communication with others. Therefore, it is possible to assume that the cell phone is the greatest innovation of the 20th century.

As the philosophical law of cause and effect, this invention couldn't be different. One of the biggest reasons for this invention was World War II, a war that demanded good communication which made the American Government and Military need to improve it. Another cause of it was the limitation of not being able to be portable makes people unable to care for them, which also brings it to a problem once people need to communicate wherever they are and that they're unable to care for a big phone in their pocket. The race made by the telecommunications industry it's also a cause, since they were trying to develop new technologies, especially one associated with the telegraph. After all, we can tell that the cell phone is the evolution from the telegraph. It's also unforgettable to mention the Cold War, which started a race between nations (USA and Russia, specifically) to see which one of them were going

to be the first ones to develop new technologies, being an example the first men that went to the moon, which took like 15 years to be over.

Dr. Martin Cooper, also known as “the father of the cell phone” started his career in Motorola in 1954, but his best accomplishment really happened in the 70’s and he is the man most often credited when the talk is about creating the cell phone. But we can’t also forget to mention John Mitchell, who is also a man that had big influences in this whole process specially because of his contributions to technology, in this case being wireless technology. Mitchell became the company’s president and CEO. Mitchell headed a team that would take care of the design and the creation of the first portable cell phone device. But nowadays, the first cell phone inventor is Martin Cooper. Eventually, the invention of the cell phone happened on April 3rd 1973, more specifically in New York. In an audience with Martin Cooper, he described perfectly how this event happened: he was on a sidewalk on Sixth Avenue in Manhattan when he demonstrated the first handheld mobile and made the first public call from a cell phone. These days, several sources show that the new generation is basically unable to live without technology. One big exemple would be the research made by Gallup, where it shows that 18-29 year-olds agree with the statement “I can’t imagine my life without my smartphone”. Even with around 51 years of creation, it’s clear that this invention improved, making it more popular day after day.

This triumph undoubtedly was going to lead the world to big effects. Starting with the one that answers almost all causes: cell phones now allow us to stay in touch with people even if they are across the world. It doesn’t need to go far to demonstrate this effect. Last summer I went to a summer program in St John’s College where I met Cala and we are able to make calls whenever we want to. This creation definitely

improved social relations, since there are millions more people that know each other across the world and need to communicate somehow. Another effect of it, even not being a big cause, is that it enables everyone to have information using apps for searching. On the topic of mobile applications, we can also say that there is a big variety in what apps can help society, not necessarily for something serious, but it might also be others that for example the principal reason for it: having fun. Last but not least, a fact that can't be said is that this innovation improved safety and security. In such a way that it became a tool that can be used to call in case of emergencies, that it's when you most need practicality and time.

In conclusion, The invention of the cell phone changed the way that we communicate, the way that we manage our business and the way that we answer emergencies. It's undeniable that phones are an essential part of daily life, we need them almost everyday. Looking back to this technological event, the impact that it had was actually way bigger than its expectations and in fact it's just growing day by day. The accessibility generated made it easier to access the internet, which made it possible to learn and to check news around the world whenever we are and whenever we want, which revolutionized the world of news. In such a way that news spreads out way faster, if something happens anywhere, a random person is able to record and make it public to the whole world. At the same time that it can be good, sometimes it also can be bad, there are some apps like "X", formerly Twitter, that allow people to publicize any type of information, whether it is real or not. In the final analysis, we can define that it is a triumph for humanity and essential to society to live. With the passing years, the phones' impacts will become far greater, becoming more important and more needed day by day.

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