An Argument for Mobile Phones

Use the highlighting feature to highlight the components of an argument in the following essay:

- Claims
- Evidence
- Counterclaims

I think we should be able to use our mobile phones in the classroom. The current ban on mobile phones in our school is causing problems.

First, we need to have our mobile phones in case of an emergency. What if a student gets sick at school and needs to call her parents to come and get her? Or maybe there's some kind of disaster like a hurricane or an explosion at school. If we have our mobile phones, we can call our parents to come and get us.

Another reason to allow mobile phones is to help us do our schoolwork. We already use our mobile phones for school outside of class. A report by Project Tomorrow says that American students are using social media a lot, and I can tell you that we use it here, too. The article says that 58% of secondary students have their own networking site, 56% participate in online discussions and communities, and 30% have collaborated on writing. Some students use these tools for their personal life, but we could all use them for school if we had the chance to use our mobile phones in class.

Our phones have lots of features that we could use for school assignments. For example, we could make videos of scenes from plays in our literature class or use the calculators in chemistry. We could look up information on the Internet for history assignments.

I know that some teachers and parents think that allowing us to have our phones in class will cause problems. They think we'll be playing games on them or just texting foolishness with our friends when we should be paying attention to the teacher. They also worry that we might take inappropriate pictures of other students or teachers and post them on the Internet.

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I can understand these problems, and I would be upset, too, if students did this. Teachers need to have strict rules about when we can use our phones, and teachers should tell us to put them away the rest of the time. And if students are caught taking inappropriate pictures, they should be punished severely. That way, the responsible students won't suffer because of the few students who don't know how to behave with their phones.

Finally, it's not fair that we can't use our mobile phones. We're used to having them with us all the time, and we feel naked without them. With a few good rules about how they should be used, I think they could improve our education.