

Name: _____

I Own My Phone

By Neal Levin



Preview

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Woe is me, I overlooked
the second cost, but now I'm hooked.
It's more expensive than the first
and never can be reimbursed.

I can't ignore these simple facts.
My phone consistently distracts.
I have to check it, need I say,
most every moment of the day.

It keeps me running, and I found
it taught me something quite profound.
I own my phone, but now I see
the truth is that my phone owns me.

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1. Line 15 of the poem says:

It keeps me running, and I found

What does the speaker mean by "It keeps me running"?

- a. The phone reminds the speaker to run daily.
- b. The phone helps manage and organize things for the speaker.
- c. The speaker runs to find the phone when it is missing.
- d. The speaker's phone is charged.

2. What does the third stanza of the poem mean?

A cartoon illustration of a superhero with brown hair, wearing a blue suit with a red cape and a shield emblem on his chest. He is flying through the air with a determined expression.

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4. How does stanza 2 relate to stanza 4?

- a. Stanza 2 and 4 explain the setting of the poem.
- b. Stanza 2 introduces the problem that is solved in stanza 4.
- c. Stanza 4 explains what the speaker says in stanza 2 about paying with attention.
- d. Stanza 4 shows the speaker's development that is introduced in stanza 2.

5. What is the theme of the poem? Use text evidence to support your answer.

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The following terms are vocabulary words from the poem "I Own my Phone." Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by writing the corresponding letter on the line.

1. ____ mention

a. suffering from great sorrow, grief, or distress

2. ____ hefty

b. continuing to happen in the same way



5. ____ profound

e. to speak briefly

6. ____ consistently

f. paid back

7. ____ distracts

g. very great or significant

8. ____ overlooked

h. large or heavy

9. ____ reimbursed

i. directs attention to something else

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I Own My Phone

In the poem, "I Own My Phone," the speaker feels owned by their phone.
Write a friendly letter giving them advice on how to not be owned by their phone.
Assume the poet is the speaker when writing your greeting.

Date: _____

Dear _____,



ANSWER KEY

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1. Line 15 of the poem says:

It keeps me running, and I found

What does the speaker mean by “It keeps me running”?



Answers may vary. An example is: The theme of the poem is people's phone use causes the phone to “own” the owner. As stated in lines 13 and 14, “I have to check it, need I say, most every moment of the day.” This shows the speaker is addicted to his phone.

ANSWER KEY

I Own My Phone



The following terms are vocabulary words from the poem "I Own my Phone." Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by writing the corresponding letter on the line.

1. e mention

a. suffering from great sorrow, grief, or distress



9. f reimbursed

i. directs attention to something else