

# The Cell Phone



Written by: James Savelli



## Literacy Focus

**Suggested Level:** Early Reader

*(Note: These books have not been levelled using standardized book levelling systems. See back cover for our suggested level.)*

### Word Count and Vocabulary

**Word Count:** 512 word

**High Frequency Words:** alright, because, what, why, bought, only, first, questions, sure, continue(d), wait, know, enough, explain(ed), minute(s), month, mean(s), service, half, phone

### Reinforcing Decoding Skills

**Multisyllabic:** cancel, birthday, continued, handed, company, number

**Inflectional Endings:** (-s, -ed) called, questions, continued, replied Shouted, exclaimed

**Digraphs:** (wh, th, ph, qu, sh) what, them, phone, questions, she

**Blends:** (sp, pl, fr, st) speak, plan, friend, stay

Book Introduction Consideration (based on student need)		
Meaning	Structure	Visual
<p>p.1— cancel, phone plan</p> <p>p.5— phone company</p> <p>p.9—\$5 off, monthly bill, extra 200 minutes</p> <p>p.11 —pay-as-you-go plan, customer, text</p> <p>p.13—contract, balance, two year contract</p> <p>p.15—owe, tax</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hmmm.., OK</li> <li>•Contractions (let's, don't)</li> <li>•Questions</li> <li>•Dialogue</li> <li>•Time Frames (monthly, two years)</li> <li>•Phone number format</li> <li>•Verbal markers (explained, asked, said, continued, replied, shouted)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Money values (\$150)</li> <li>•Callouts</li> <li>•Compound Words (someone, birthday)</li> <li>•Number words</li> <li>•Label (contract)</li> <li>•Glossary—<b>bold</b></li> </ul>

# The Cell Phone

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Faisal

Islam Nabi



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“Hey Faisal, can you help me out?”  
asked Nabi.

“What is it?” asked Faisal.

“I need to cancel my phone plan. I  
want you to call because you speak  
more English than I do,” said Nabi.

“Hmmm....alright. What do you  
want me to say?” asked Faisal.



“Tell them I want to cancel my phone plan,” said Nabi.

“Why do you want to cancel your phone plan?” asked Faisal.

“I bought a better phone from my friend. It was only \$150!” replied Nabi.

“OK. Let’s call,” said Faisal.



Faisal called the phone company.  
“Hi. My friend wants to cancel his phone plan and he asked me to call for him,” said Faisal.

The woman on the phone said,  
“OK. I can help you with that. But I need to speak to your friend first.”

“OK,” said Faisal. “Nabi, she has to talk to you first.”

Faisal gave the phone to Nabi.



“Hi,” said Nabi.

“Hello,” said the woman. “I am going to help you today but I need to ask you some questions. Please tell me your name, phone number, and birthday.”

“Sure. My name is Nabi and my phone number is 555-255-2525. My birthday is May 16,” replied Nabi.

“Thank you, Nabi. Now, can you tell me why you want to cancel your phone plan?” continued the woman.

“Wait, let my friend talk.” Nabi handed the phone back to Faisal.

What is  
your name?



My name is  
Nabi.



"Nabi, she wants to know why you don't want the phone plan anymore," asked Faisal.

"Just tell her I don't have enough money for the phone," said Nabi.

Faisal explained what Nabi said to the woman.

"Nabi, she says she can take \$5 off your monthly bill and give you an extra 200 minutes each month," explained Faisal.

"No, I don't want it," replied Nabi.



"Nabi, she wants to know if you want to get a **pay-as-you-go** plan. It means you only pay each time you talk to someone or send a text."

"No, I want to use my new phone. Why does she keep asking these questions?" said Nabi.

Faisal explained, "They want you to stay with them as a **customer**. They want to make money."

"Just tell them no, please," Nabi said.



“Nabi, she says that’s fine. The service can be cut today, but your contract is only half over. You still have to pay the **balance** on the phone.”

“What does that mean?” Nabi asked.

“You have a two year contract. That contract pays for the phone. You haven’t finished the contract so you have to pay for the rest of the phone,” explained Faisal.

## CONTRACT



He has a 2 year contract.



“But I don’t want the phone anymore, they can have it back!” exclaimed Nabi.

“They don’t want it back. You have to pay for it.”

“Oh, how much do I have to pay?” Nabi asked.

“She says you still owe \$125 for the phone, plus tax. So that’s about \$140.”

“What? Are you serious? I just spent \$150 on a new phone. How can I pay for both?” Nabi shouted.

How can I pay  
for both?



## Glossary

**phone plan**— an agreement for phone service

**monthly bill**— the money you pay each month for a service

**Pay-as-you-go plan**— a prepaid phone service, you only pay for the time you talk

**customer**— the person who buys the service

**contract**— a legal agreement

**balance**— the amount of money you need to pay

**owe**— you need to pay for something

**tax**— the extra money you must pay to the government when you buy something

