X’s statement about ________ (surprised me/shocked me/ changed my thinking/confirmed my thinking/challenged my thinking) because _________. For example (example transition), ________ (elaborate on your BQ/TMM with a specific example). As a result (effect transition), I'm of two minds regarding whether or not (age-restrictions/ parental liability) should be placed on cell phones. On one hand, I (agree/disagree) that _________. On the other hand, _________. At first glance, teenagers might say _________. But on closer inspection _________. Ultimately, what is at stake here is _________. (Answers: So what? and So Why? Concluding Sentence).
Mansfield’s research indicating just how bad the effects of cellphone use has become challenged my thinking greatly because I knew that kids “felt” different, but I couldn’t figure out what the difference was; her article made sense to me. For example, in addition to noting the change in mental health, she also noted additional research showing a 43% increase in ADHD. As a teacher, I see this on a daily basis. More and more kids are unable to be “bored” or tend to a given task for any length of time. They desire “endless stimulation, instant gratification, and an absence of dull moments.” This might lead one to believe that there should be an age restriction of at least sixteen placed on cellphones, smart phones in particular. On the one hand, if a person had to wait until they were sixteen before they could have a smart phone, we would have healthier, happier, and more responsible cellphone users. Not only would they have the maturity to handle the pressures of social media, but they would have had 16 years of face-to-face relationships. They wouldn't have grown up with a phone as their “babysitter” or only source of entertainment. Just as the privilege of driving a car warrants maturity and responsibility, a sixteen year old would be better equipped to handle the anxiety social, and time issues connected with smart phones. On the other hand, others might argue that waiting till they were sixteen was unrealistic or perhaps an infringement of their rights. After all, if a parent wants their child to have a smart phone, they should be able to have one. At first glance, teenagers might say that this was a ridiculous restriction, but after closer inspection, they would realize that the research isn’t lying. Cellphones are being abused and are hurting our kids. Ultimately, what is at stake here is the future of our society: shouldn’t we do what is necessary to protect this and future generations from further damage?