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UK Phone Booths Become Free Solar-powered Mobile Phone Chargers

Created in the 1920s by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, the architect who designed Waterloo Bridge, the red public telephone boxes, which can be seen all over the UK, are regarded as one of the most typical symbols of this country.

However, public phones have had their day despite their lovely housings. While coin-operated and card-operated telephones are on the edge of extinction, mobile phones are playing a significant role in people's lives. Though they are more portable, flexible and extensively used, mobile phones have their kryptonite: battery life. Instead of trashing the phone booths, a project was then promoted to recycle and reuse them. To be consistent with the environment-friendly preference, people are allowed to rent and repurpose the red phone boxes. In this way, they are making an unusual comeback.

When you take a walk down Tottenham Court Road in London and find your mobile phone in a low-battery condition, there happens to be a green option for you. The abandoned phone booths are being repurposed as free charging stations powered by solar energy.

Inside the booths, which are newly painted green, there are various adaptors that can be connected to different brands and models of mobile phones. Just walk in, plug your phone in, and charge it up whenever it needs to be supplied with power. Since most people would stay inside the boxes while they charge, Solarbox, the company which launched the project, can reach a large quantity of audience by displaying ads on solid equipment. Its advertisers include well-known companies like Uber, yet 30% of advertising space is reserved for local community projects.

Apart from converting phone booths into solar-powered charging stations, other forms of transformation can be found in and outside the UK. For example, there is medical equipment or mini libraries adapted from phone booths, while in America, thousands of phone booths have been transformed to Wi-Fi hot spots.

Section one Check your understanding

- What does the underlined word "kryptonite" in Paragraph 2 probably mean?

A. Lack.	B. Strength.
C. Weakness.	D. Feature.
- What's the fundamental factor that makes Solarbox launch the project?

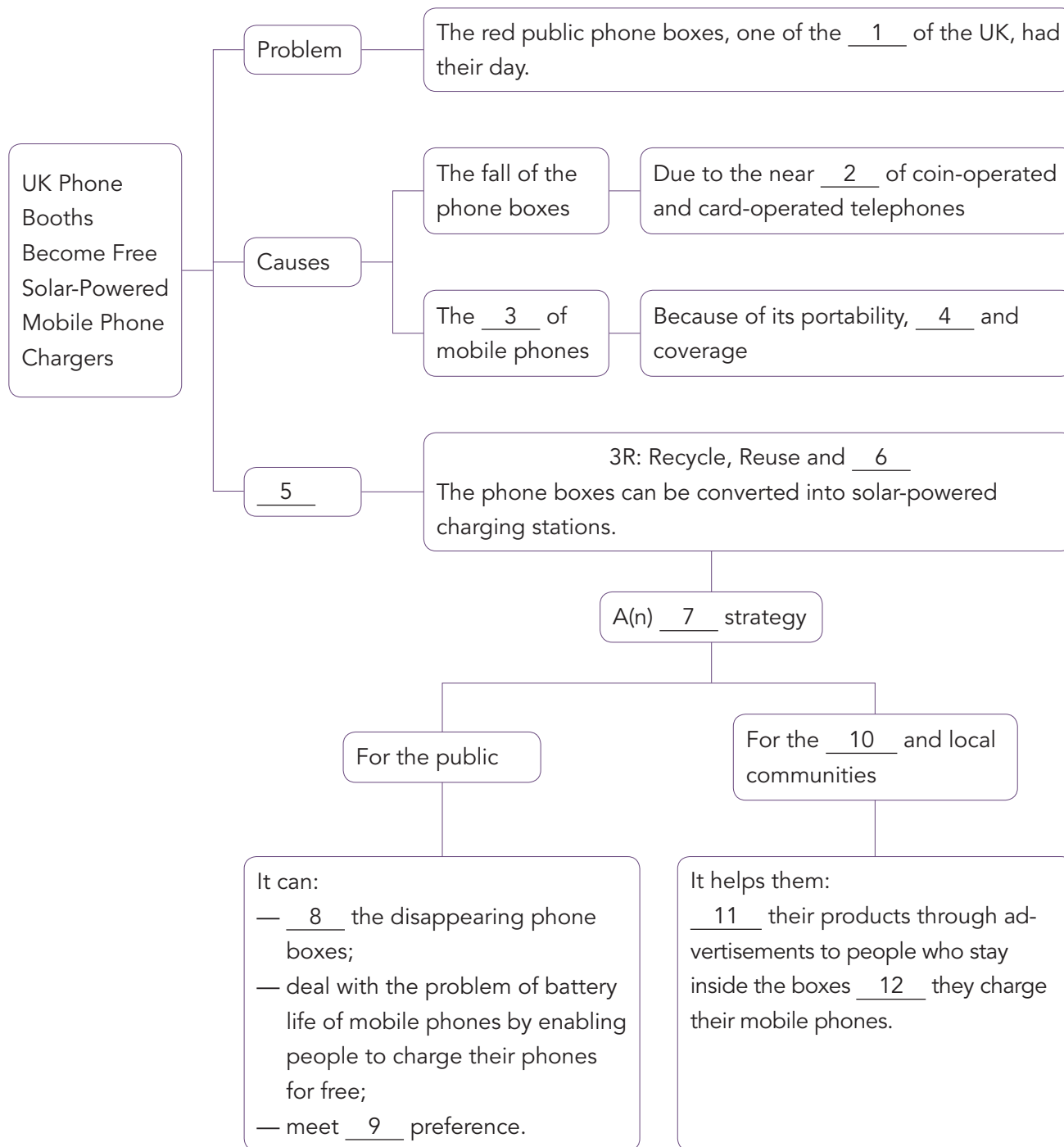
A. The new function.	B. Advertising profit.
C. People's affection.	D. Companies' support.
- What does the author think of the transformed phone boxes?

A. Conventional.	B. Consistent.
C. Costly.	D. Convenient.
- What's the text mainly about?

A. The future of the public phone.	B. The revival of the phone boxes.
C. The rise and fall of the red boxes.	D. The ups and downs of the pay phone.

Section two Understand globally

请根据文章信息及语篇知识，完成语篇结构图。每空限填一词。



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Section three Build your vocabulary


1. 根据文章内容，在空白处填入恰当的助动词，再对照原文核对答案，并总结其用法。

- 1) However, public phones _____ had their day despite their lovely housings.
- 2) A project _____ then promoted to recycle and reuse them.
- 3) In this way, they _____ making an unusual comeback.
- 4) Most people _____ stay inside the boxes while they charge.

通过观察上述句子，我发现：

5) 助动词往往和_____动词一起连用，共同组成句子的_____，主要用来帮助构成_____和_____。

2. 请参考示例，根据 Sue 的回答提问，将问句写在左侧方框内，并总结其用法。

You	<p>Are you leaving?</p> <p>1) _____</p> <p>2) _____</p> <p>3) _____</p> <p>4) _____</p> <p>5) _____</p>	 Sue
	<p>Yes, I'm leaving.</p> <p>No, I don't like it.</p> <p>No, I won't do it again.</p> <p>Yes, I think the film is interesting.</p> <p>No, I think the exam is easy.</p> <p>No, I haven't been there.</p>	

通过观察上述句子，我发现：

6) 助动词还可用于_____和_____的句式中。

Section four Enhance your grammar competence

1. 观察下面的句子并总结其规律。

- Most people would stay inside the boxes.
① ② ③
- Other forms of transformation can be found in and outside the UK.
① ② ③

通过观察上述句子，我发现：

两个句子中标注为①的部分充当句子的_____，标注为②的部分充当句子的_____，标注为③的部分充当句子的_____。这两个句子的句子结构均为_____。

2. 请展开想象，根据已有信息使用恰当的内容补全下列句子。

例如：A change begins at the end of your comfort zone.

- 1) More charging stations are coming _____.
- 2) Senior students studied hard for _____.
- 3) Doctors and nurses worked _____.