Tasks to "India Poised for Smartphone Revolution"

As the world becomes increasingly more industrialised and living standards in certain developing countries are on the rise, mobile phones and smartphones are becoming more common in countries such as India. In the next few years, millions of Indians are expected to get access to smartphones and the Internet. This is fantastic news for the Indian people's welfare and has many positive outcomes such as economic growth and less use of paper. But the trend also has its downsides, when regarding for example the carbon footprint of a mobile phone.

Read the "India Poised for Smartphone Revolution" from CNN:
http://money.cnn.com/2017/09/26/technology/india-mobile-congress-market-numbers/index.html (Rishi Iyengar, 2017)

Task One: Questions from the text

Q1: What is expected to happen to India's mobile phone market in the upcoming years?

Q2: How many mobile phone users in India were anticipated to upgrade to smartphones in the five years after the article was written? Can you find any updated figures regarding this situation today?

Q3: Why is mobile data so cheap in India?

Q4: What does Shobhit Srivastava believe is the key to make smartphones and the Internet more accessible to Indians?

Q5: How many smartphone users will there be in India within a few years if these estimations are correct?

Task 2: The pros and cons of smartphones

What are the positive and negative aspects of global smartphone use? Discuss and find relevant sources, and make a list of the pros and cons of smartphones:

Positives	Negatives
Improved welfare and living standards	Large carbon footprint
Less paper	Mass production of electronics
…	…

Task 3: Group debate

Arrange a debate in class. One side will argue that it is positive for India and the world that more people get access to smartphones. The other will argue that it is negative. Use the CNN article and the points from the list in Task 2, and debate whether this development is good or bad. Teachers can decide if they want one big debate group or several smaller groups.