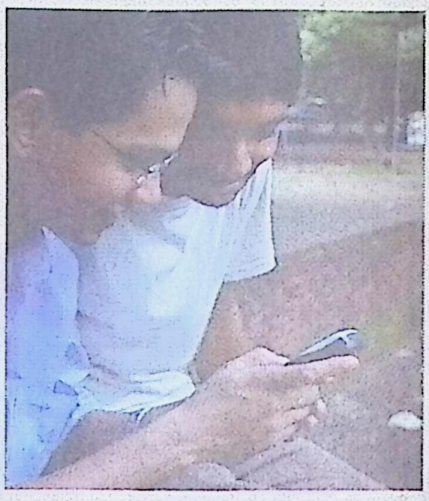
The use is so continuous and vast that sometimes it seems very unusual not to see a student carrying or rolling, calling or messaging, gaming or framing with his or her cell phone.

Sometimes students in the group would abstain from the conversations for a few minutes to 'fiddle' with their telephones. One might assume the conversation was not creating interest to them and they found more amusement playing with the games on their mobiles. They often message other friends to see if they were coming out and telling them where the group was.

The text message has indeed become an accepted and every day method of communication for students as mobile telephone users, who are exploring the possibilities of the medium, creating purpose and relevance to both the caller and the receiver.

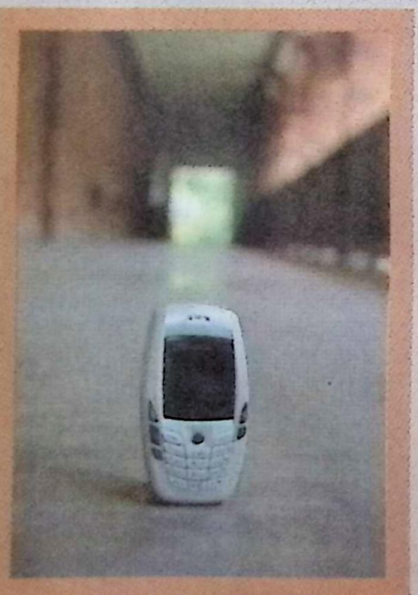
In the same way as they commonly say "I'll give you a ring" for whatever reason, now one increasingly hears "I'll text you" showing that this habit is becoming a more frequently used one.

For some, text messaging adds an extra dimension to conversations and communication, for they can enable people to exchange snippets of information that may not in themselves warrant a full call. This appeared to be









the opinion of many of our male friends that they view telephone communication as a method of relaying information.

Irrespective of subtleties, the mobile telephone does cut across gender differences. Both male and female students look upon the text messaging as mode of communication that not only fits their budgets, but which can be integrated into the cultural framework of there lives. They can be discreet, fun, rude, silly, practical, and versatile, while also enabling the user to communicate in situations where a traditional call may be inappropriate.

The multimedia option is also very popular among students. On most of the occasions we saw massive camera usage against a few digital cameras. Having a camera in the handset gave them the sovereignty not to carry digital camera separately. Sakibul Ahsan Jamaal, a 4th year student of Dhaka University said, "Having a camera in your cell phone lets you capture almost everything around. And you can instantly exchange photos with your friends through Bluetooth' or infrared where a digital camera doesn't have the option. Moreover you can forget your camera, but can you forget your dearest cell phone?"

Atikur Rahman Kaju is pretty happy with the Mp3 player option. Starting from classes to canteens he is seen with headphones on. On an average he listens to about 30 songs a day.

A.H.M. Saifur Rahman Pushpo uses the GPRS to download ringtones, wallpapers in his cell phone.