

## Ebooks

### Task 1: Reading

**Blog on. The 'for or against' blog.**

#### Electronic books or paper books?

Are electronic books better than traditional paper books? Ebooks are very popular these days but many readers prefer paper books.

Some people think that electronic books are great. You can store thousands of books on an ebook, whereas paper books take up lots of space at home. You don't need to go to a bookshop because you can buy and receive books online instantly.

On the other hand, printed books are still very popular. Some people prefer to hold a 'real' book and like to touch paper pages. You can lend a favourite book to a friend but you can't borrow your friend's ereader for a couple of weeks. Also, electronic books are very expensive.

To sum up, I think that electronic books are a really useful invention. Many people use them but they won't replace paper books in the future. What do you think?

#### Blog comments: Tell us what you think?

Ebooks are *rubbish!* They are really expensive and you can't read them in the bath.  
Graham, UK

I use my ereader when I go on holiday. I can take lots of books and there's still a lot of room left in my suitcase for clothes and other stuff. *Great!*  
Sarah, Hong Kong

Ebooks are the future. In twenty years we won't be reading paper books.  
Jaime, Canada

Paper books are destroying trees!  
Scott, Germany

Ebooks are just for rich people who need to have the latest gadget to show to their friends. *I'm sticking with* paperbacks.  
Jules, USA

I love my ebook. It's very light, you can change the size of the words, you can make notes on the pages, you can buy a book with a couple of clicks AND you can download books for free. *What's not to like?*  
Tamsin, Netherlands.

I work in a bookshop. What happens to people like me if everyone stops buying books?  
Jon, New Zealand.

1. Read the blog entry “Electronic books or paper books?” What are the advantages and disadvantages of ebooks, according to the writer?

2. Read the blog entry again and match the underlined parts of the text with these words and expressions:

1 As well as this also \_\_\_\_\_

2 but \_\_\_\_\_

3 However \_\_\_\_\_

4 In conclusion \_\_\_\_\_

5 nowadays \_\_\_\_\_

6 On the one hand \_\_\_\_\_

3. Read the comments section. Which person...

1 ...likes ebooks because they are small? Sarah \_\_\_\_\_

2 ...is worried about the environment? \_\_\_\_\_

3 ...thinks ebooks are only for people with a lot of money? \_\_\_\_\_

4 ...doesn't pay to download ebooks? \_\_\_\_\_

5 ...doesn't like ebooks because they cost a lot of money? \_\_\_\_\_

6 ...thinks nobody will read traditional books in the future? \_\_\_\_\_

7 ...is worried about his job? \_\_\_\_\_

4) Match the descriptions with the words in *italics* in 'Blog comments'.

1 Very good \_\_\_\_\_

2 Bad \_\_\_\_\_

3 There is nothing negative \_\_\_\_\_

4 I'm going to continue using \_\_\_\_\_

**Task 2: Discuss**

**Which is better? Discuss these topics in groups.**

- Emails or letter?
- Text message or phone call?
- Plane or boat?
- Electric toothbrush or traditional toothbrush?
- Credit card or cash?
- Computer game or board game?
- Car or bike?

**Task 3: Write**

**A) Write a 'for or against' blog entry. Use words and expressions from Task 1 (ex. 2).**

**Blog on. The 'for or against' blog.**

\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_?

**B) Change papers and comment on your classmates' blogs. Use some of the expressions from Task 1 (ex. 4)**

**Blog Comments – Tell us what you think:**