

Read the “Print Books or E-Books” passage set.

Print Books or E-Books

Source 1: E-Books vs. Print Books: What’s the Difference?

By Linda McMaken

1. In the last several years, e-books have become a mainstay and a powerful trend in the publishing industry. However, the demise of printed books as a result of e-books has not materialized, but instead, the two formats have existed simultaneously. Both hardcover and paperback books still rule the market, each with approximately \$2.8 billion in sales in 2017.
2. KEY TAKEAWAYS
 - Print books have the feel of a book that many readers love. You can hold it, turn the pages, and feel the paper.
 - Paper books are easier on the eyes since there's no eye strain that comes with an electronic device or e-reader.
 - E-books are usually less expensive than their paper counterparts.
 - E-books come with font flexibility, making reading easier and e-readers can store thousands of e-books on a single device.
3. Print books have some advantages over e-books, including that they have the feel of a book that many readers love. Also, for those who like to read as they fall asleep, paper books make a better choice since there is no eye strain that comes with an electronic device or e-reader.
4. On the other hand, paper books can be difficult to carry around, especially hardcover books. If you are an avid reader and you are going on a trip, you would need to pack books in your luggage, whereas an e-reader or iPad is far easier to take.
5. E-books are usually less expensive than their paper counterparts. However, there are exceptions. Since e-books are delivered in digital format, many readers assume that e-books should cost less than their print counterparts.
6. Most e-books range in price from \$9.99 to 99 cents, and many classic books are free online. However, when you get down to the dollars and cents, there really is not a great deal of difference.
7. The electronic devices used for e-books can be an added benefit. E-books come with font flexibility making reading easier. Also, you can store thousands of e-books and magazines on a single device. You can check out library books on your e-reader, and the e-books save trees.

8. There are some drawbacks that are unique to e-books. You must recharge an e-reader or electronic device. Some screens are not easily readable in sunlight. Also, e-readers can cause eyestrain from looking at the screen. If you work in front of a computer all day, the last thing you might want to do is read your favorite author's stories on a computer screen.

Source 2: Books vs. e-books: The science behind the best way to read

By Amy Kraft

9. A 2014 study published in the journal *Library & Information Science Research* found that out of 143 tenth grade students, most preferred e-readers. Boys and those who did not care much for reading also shared a strong preference for e-readers.
10. "An e-reader has more in common with the electronic devices that young people use all the time, like smartphones or iPads, than a paper book, when it comes to turning of pages, the possibilities of adjusting font size, etc.," lead author of the study, Åse Kristine Tveit, told CBS News.
11. Several small studies suggest that reading on paper instead of an electronic screen is better for memory retention and focus. The Guardian reported on an experiment where people were given a short story to read either on a Kindle or in a paperback book; when they were quizzed later, those who read the paperback were more likely to remember plot points in the right order.
12. "When you read on paper you can sense with your fingers a pile of pages on the left growing, and shrinking on the right," the lead researcher told the Guardian. "You have the tactile sense of progress ... Perhaps this somehow aids the reader, providing more fixity and solidity to the reader's sense of unfolding and progress of the text, and hence the story."
13. High levels of screen luminance or light from an electronic device can contribute to visual fatigue, a condition marked by tired, itching, burning eyes.
14. There are also potential considerations for those reading e-books on light-emitting e-readers at night (although a number of e-readers do not use light-emitting screens), Dr. Margaret K. Merga, a reading and education specialist, told CBS News. "Artificial light exposure from light-emitting e-readers may interfere with users' ability to sleep, ultimately leading to adverse impacts on health."

15. A 2014 study published in the journal PNAS found that reading an e-book before bedtime decreased the production of melatonin, a hormone that prepares the body for sleep. E-books also impaired alertness the following day.
16. Individuals with poor eyesight or reading disorders like dyslexia can benefit more from e-books because they provide a range of options for changing the text size and spacing of lines. A 2013 study in the journal PLOS One observed reading comprehension and speed in 103 high school students with dyslexia. The study found that people with dyslexia read more effectively, and with greater ease, when using the e-reader compared with reading on paper.
17. Schneps, who was the lead author on the paper, said, "What made the difference was the ability of the device to display lines of text that were extremely short (about two or three words per line), as well as its ability to space out the text. When these people read using the modified formatting, their reading instantly improved."
18. Many booklovers still prefer the traditional option and value the tactile sensation of a bound paper book. "Paper books are, as a rule, very well designed, they look and smell good, and they carry with them a more human touch," Tveit said.
19. In Merga's experience with students in Australia, avid readers also tend to prefer reading on paper. While conducting the West Australian Study in Adolescent Book Reading (WASABR), Merga and colleagues found that students preferred reading paper books. "One student described this attitude as a preference to 'own something (rather) than just use it,'" Merga said.

Source 3: Excerpt from “E-Books vs. Print: What Parents Need to Know”

By Jenny Deam

20. Once products targeted primarily at adults, e-reading devices have expanded to include a younger audience: children.
21. “We are not going to stop this train,” says psychologist Jim Taylor, Ph.D., author of *Raising Generation Tech*. But should we try to slow it down? When it comes to the youngest readers, some experts are skittish about putting tablets into tiny hands. Parents are conflicted, too — 68 percent prefer that their 6- to 8-year-olds read print books, Scholastic found. Since there’s not much research out there, it may be years before we understand the impact of tech devices on young readers.

22. Still, there are signs that e-readers can have a positive effect on newbie readers, especially when it comes to targeted learning based on each child's ability. But don't give those storybooks the heave-ho just yet. "It doesn't have to be an either-or. You don't build a house with only one tool," says Otis Kriegel, a fifth-grade teacher in New York City and the author of *Covered in Glue: What New Elementary School Teachers Really Need to Know*.

Print May Be Better For...

23. **The hands-on experience.** Some experts, including Taylor, worry that devices can distance little kids from the real world. If they're only exposed to e-readers, kids lose the tactile experience of handling a traditional book, turning its pages, or sharing their faves with friends. "Technology is a beautiful box, but it is still a box," he says.

24. **Falling in love with reading.** Cuddling with a parent over a book or gathering around the teacher for story time helps kids associate reading with nurturing. "These reading experiences can set the stage for later reading success," says Julia Parish-Morris, a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania who studies how young children interact with e-books.

25. **Focusing a child's attention.** The music, animation, and games that are loaded into kids' e-books can end up being more distracting than useful, says Lisa Guernsey, director of the early education initiative at the New America Foundation. "The technology is so exciting that the conversation focuses on what button to push instead of the content," she says.

Digital Matches Print For...

26. **Boosting early reading skills.** For the past four years the Center for Literacy at the University of Akron has been studying how to integrate e-readers into classrooms. Jeremy Scott Brueck, director of the school's Digital Text Initiative, found that animation and audio in e-books did seem to help young kids identify printed words. When Brueck tested pre-K students, a third knew the words before reading the story with a grown-up on an e-reader. After reading the e-book, the number shot up to 54 percent. It's unclear whether the results would have come out the same with traditional books; it might have been the shared reading experience — a known vocabulary-builder — rather than the device that helped kids learn. But what they did find: "The kids were extremely engaged," says Brueck.

Digital May Trump Print Because...

27. **It's more interactive.** While add-ons can distract, they are extremely useful for beginning readers, who can zoom in on unfamiliar words or click links that help make connections to their world, says Guernsey. Plus, the touchscreen or buttons on an e-reader can hone a preschooler's fine-motor skills.
28. **It's more rewarding.** When kids see printed words light up as they sound out the words, they're encouraged. Kim Floyd has been teaching kindergarten in Napa Valley, CA, for 24 years and using iPads loaded with books for the last three. The proof of e-reading success is in front of her every day when she sees how excited her students are the second she pulls out the tablets. Because the devices help children understand words by highlighting and defining those they struggle with, their vocabulary increases. Her kindergartners have vocabularies more typical of second graders, she notes.
29. **It caters to a kid's unique learning style.** Floyd also likes that the anonymity of the device helps struggling readers feel less embarrassed. "It lets children find a book that fits their interest and skill without the entire class knowing what they are reading," she says. Erika Alexander, a suburban Detroit mother, agrees. Her fourth-grade son is a reluctant reader, even though books were part of his routine when he was younger. Recently when they were shopping, he picked up a Nook that was loaded with a graphic novel. Attracted at first to the gadgetry, he stood in the aisle and inhaled the story. Alexander still plans to encourage a love of old-fashioned books. But she also recognizes that her son is a visual person, and a high-tech device hooks him in ways that were missing before.

The Bottom Line...

30. Kids have a lot to gain from *both* reading tools. Even though she's a huge e-reader fan, Floyd believes that children should be exposed to print first or at least simultaneously. Her students switch off easily, and there are surprisingly few squabbles over who gets the iPad. "After the novelty wears off, they become nonchalant," she says. Plus, technology will never replace good parenting and good teachers.

Writing Prompt

Write an argumentative essay either in support of the classrooms in your school district mostly using printed text books or mostly using electronic devices with e-books. Use the information from the passages in your essay.

Manage your time carefully so that you can

- read the passages;
- plan your response;
- write your response; and
- revise and edit your response.

Be sure to

- include a claim;
- address counterclaims;
- use evidence from multiple sources; and
- avoid overly relying on one source.

Your response should be in the form of a multiparagraph essay. Write your response in the space provided.