**Chapter Three**

**THE BOOK OF THE FUTURE**

Will people still read books 100 years from now? A few years ago, many people would have said no. It seemed likely that computers and the Internet would replace books. Now; however, most experts think that books are here to stay.

There are a number of reasons why computers won't replace books entirely. One reason is that books on paper are much cheaper than computers. Books don't need a power source4 either. You can read a book for as long as you want and wherever you want. You never have to worry about losing power. Also, many people feel more comfortable reading words in a book than reading words on a computer screen. It's less tiring to the eyes.

Will books in the future be similar to the books you can buy today? The answer to that question is no. In the future, you may only need to buy one book. With this one book, you will be able to read novels, plays, and even today's newspaper. It will look like today's book, but it will be electronic.

One of the people working on the book of the future is Professor Joseph Jacobson from the Massachusetts Institute of technology in the U.S. Professor Jacobson's book will have a small button on the side. When you press the button, words will instantly appear on the page. When you want to read a different story you can push the button again a new story will quickly appear.

What is the technology behinds Professor Jacobson's book? The two important inventions will make this new kind of book possible: electronic ink and radio paper. Electronic ink - or "e-ink" - is a liquid that can be printed on paper, metal, or anything else. E-ink looks and feels like printed words on paper. Unlike regular ink, however, words in e-ink are not permanent. They can be changed by pushing a button. When you push the button, all of the words on the page go away and new words appear.

The other new development is radio paper. This paper looks and feels like a page in a book. In reality, however, radio paper is made of plastic. Professor Jacobson calls his book of the future "the last book." This book, he says, will be the last book you will ever need.

Vocabularies and meaning

**Likely**: probable, almost certain

**Expert**: a person who knows a lot about something

**Entirely**: completely

**A power source**: a battery or something else to provide energy

**Novels fiction;** books that tell stories that aren't true

**Electronic**: controlled by a computer

**Appear**: become visible; come into sight

**Behind;** making possible; supporting

**Inventions:** new things

**New development**: new things

Antonyms

Appear X disappear

Permanent X changeable

Important X unimportant

Quickly X slowly

Regular X irregular

A. Read the statements below and answer each of them with True or False

1. Electronic books will be like the books we have today. **False**

2. You will be able to read many different stories in one electronic book. **True**

3. You will be able to get the news in an electronic book.  **True**

4. The words in an electronic book will be permanent.  **False**

5. Radio paper is made of paper. **False**

B. Vocabulary check. Use context clues to choose the correct meaning of the italicized words.

1. The words are here to stay in line 3 mean . . .

a. are nearby b. are useless ***c. won't disappear***

2. The phrase a number of in line 4 is similar to the word . . .

a. all b. one ***c. many***

3. The word press in line 16 means . . .

***a. push*** b. iron c. pull

4. The word instantly in line 17 is similar to . . .

***a. very quickly*** b. very slowly c. seriously

5. The word permanent in line 23 means . . .

a. powerful b. serious ***c. unchangi ng***

C. Advantage and disadvantage of E. book

**Advantages of E. Book**

1. It will be easy to use.
2. Students won't need to carry a number of books to class.
3. The words aren't permanent.
4. We won't need to cut down trees to make the paper.

**Disadvantage of E. Book**

1. It could stop working.
2. An e-book will need a power source.
3. It is tiring the eyes

Complete each sentence with a reason from the list on the right.

a. Electronic paper will be more expensive than regular paper because **it will be made of plastic.**

b. You will only need one book in the future because **you will be able to change the stories in the book.**

c. E-ink is more useful than regular ink because **it isn't permanent.**

d.People will feel comfortable reading an e-book because **it will look and feel like a regular book.**

e. You won't need a bookshelf in the future because **you will own just one book.**

**Using compound nouns**

We often use two nouns together. Sometimes the two nouns are written as one word.

Examples: football, lifetime, textbook, homestay

Sometimes the two nouns are written separately.

Examples; highs school, bank loan, conveniences store

A. Match the nouns that go together. Write the words. (More than one answer may be possible.)

1. Computer screen, computer game

2. Newspaper. News station, News source

3. Brain cells,

4. Radio station, Radio paper

5. Power source

6. Street sign, street station

7. Host family 8. Subway station