

Reading eLesson

Week starting 12 April 2010

- 10** Ask students to summarize what the speakers say with one adjective: *An ebook / book is _____*. Put a selection of adjectives on the board appropriate for your students' level, eg *fragile, reliable, helpful, environmentally friendly, motivating, vulnerable (to something), unhealthy, convenient, robust*. Higher level students could try summing up some of the statements in pairs without the selection.

Answer key

1, 2

h, g, d, i, b, f, c, a, e

3 Wording of answers may vary.

- 1 iBooks lets customers read, browse and buy books.
- 2 More and more people are reading ebooks, and this number is likely to grow.
- 3 The different writing materials mentioned in the text are clay, bone, tortoise shells, papyrus, animal skins, paper.
- 4 The first type of printing used wooden blocks.
- 5 The huge growth in the number of printing presses meant that books were made in large numbers and more cheaply.
- 6 The printing press changed society because reading was no longer just in the hands of the few.
- 7 The way of reading has developed over history, changing from being public and oral to silent and private.

4

Students' own answers.

5

- a Comments for ereading: b, c, e, f, g, i, j, l, n
- b Comments against ereading: a, d, h, k, m

6

Students' own answers.

Related websites

The following websites might be useful, for either yourself or your students.

Ereaders:

<http://www.apple.com/ipad/ipad-video/> (video)
<http://www.sony.co.uk/hub/reader-ebook>
<http://www.digitaltrends.com/gadgets/apple-ipad-versus-amazon-kindle/>
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/8036436.stm> (video)

The development of reading:

<http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/topics/Papyrus>
http://en.citizendium.org/wiki/Printing_press
<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/sacredtexts/podsusanwhitfield.html>
<http://www.historyguide.org/intellect/press.html>

Paper versus ebooks:

<http://hubpages.com/hub/Ebooks-vs-paperbacks-The-Pros-and-Cons>
<http://users.california.com/~parvin/ebooks.html>
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/8037058.stm>