BOOKS OR E-BOOKS?
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Reading is a skill that everyone needs to master in order to better understand the world, why people, things, events, scenarios, and situations exist. In fact, according to Francis Bacon, a renown English philosopher and statesman, reading maketh a full man. People cannot live or is not possible to exist without learning how to read.

Reading is a form of machinery people use to understand everything under the sun. In school, reading is a form part of the everyday lessons and a tool to better comprehend other disciplines. Reading materials like magazines, books, periodicals, newspapers, newsletters, and the like are indispensable reading resources of which learning institutions cannot live without.

Of all these reading materials, books are the much needed and frequently used by people of young and old generations in their writings, projects, researches, and other school and non-school related activities. Books are everywhere. It can be seen on bookstores, malls, in public places or private ones. Books can be found in shelves, inside the cabinets and classrooms, bags, on the table or inside it. It is within reach of your hands. As what Sharma (2018) asserted, books are crucial part of our lives that it serves as best companion.

But the hotly contested issue nowadays in terms of reading is the use of e-books over traditional books (tangible books). With the fast changing trend of education which has been brought by technological advancement, books became more generation friendly or adopted to the needs of the new generation learners. The introduction of e-books indeed penetrated learning institutions including the primary, secondary, up to the tertiary level.

Many schools have been embracing the use of e-books and integrated these in the curriculum and program prospectus. With the easiness and convenience these bring among leaners and teachers, it is no longer a question that many rely on the beneficial effects of using e-books in the teaching and learning process. E-books can easily be downloaded using mobile devices, laptops, smartphones, IPad, and computers.
However, each type of books also have their disadvantages and limitations. Printed books can easily be destroyed by pests, are prone to damages cause by natural and manmade disasters like fire and flood, printed books also become obsolete and are extra baggage. While e-books can be corrupted or destroyed by cyber viruses, requires internet connection and technological devices.

What I can only suggest among readers is that for them to have a balance use of printed books and e-books. Maximize the use of each type of book in learning and studying different things. There is no wrong with adapting to change just like the rampant use of e-books, however, readers should also consider traditional printed books as part of learning for it has been proven useful and effective.

References: