THE SUPERIORITY OF TRADITIONAL BOOKS
DESPITE THE DIGITAL ERA
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Over the years, the use of electronic books (e-books) became the trend in this digital era. Because of the common use of iPad, mobile phones, tablet and other handy devices, many people prefer the use of e-books because these were easier to carry. They would just simply save the files and they can store as many e-books as they want as long as they have storage. However, despite the conveniences that e-books could give, these digital books still did not overpower the survival of the print books most especially in the use of traditional books in education.

In fact, Shaunacy Ferro (2015) said that the study of West Chester University in middle schoolers proved that the students had low reading comprehension when reading on iPads than when reading on print books. They have also discovered that children are distracted on the interactive features of the e-books, making them skip some texts. Other features of e-books are distracting rather than enhancing the reading comprehension of children.

If this is the case, there is a lower chance that the children would retain the information they have read in digital books. They would just ended up remembering only few details that can lead them to poor comprehension which can actually affect their critical thinking. There will also be a lower chance of learning because the readers of e-books will have a hard time in understanding the texts that were written which is obviously unhelpful while studying.
Greg Krehbiel (2015) also argued that print books are better than *e-books* "because of the tactile sensation of the book in your hand, which gives you a lot more feedback than you think". It means that the more concrete the books are, the better understanding you could acquire because it is much easier to highlight important information, put a sticky note to the pages and write some comments or understanding toward a particular paragraph or sentence and it is easier to find those notes even you closed your book.

The use of *e-books* could also bring some frustration. Of course, e-books require the use of some devices and stress comes when your gadget is running out of battery life and there is no outlet available to recharge. Digital books could also give lesser reliability than those print books because many digital books could be edited by anyone using the Internet. Meaning, there are more room for errors unlike in the print books in which the texts are already in hard copies and cannot be edited.

Despite the digital era in which people are hook in utilizing the technology, it is safe to say that *e-books* still did not replace the print books. In the Philippine setting, the use of traditional books is still preferable in schools it is more convenient on the part of the majority of students. Also, it is more important to have a high reading comprehension with the use of print books than with just being in the trend of using digital books yet receiving low comprehension and understanding of the information and details.

References:

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