

Books

and

technology

Handmade books

People made the first books by hand. They used ink and a pen called a quill, which they made from a feather. They wrote on a material which they made from animal skins. They also drew pictures and coloured them with paint. They used a lot of gold and silver to make the pictures beautiful, but it took years to make one book.



Imagine – only very rich people had books!



quill



ink



printing press

Printed books

A technology called printing changed how people made books. Johannes Gutenberg invented a printing machine. He made letters, put ink on them and put them into his machine which pressed the ink onto paper. This invention could make lots of books quickly and it reduced the cost of books. More people were able to buy books and so more people learned to read.



Audio books

With the invention of audio technology, people didn't need to read books. They could listen to them. The first audio books were on cassettes and then on CDs. People bought them in shops and listened to them through speakers or earphones. Now you can download audio books from the Internet.



ebooks

Now, thanks to digital technology, we can read books on an e-reader, a tablet or even a smartphone. We don't need to go shopping because we can buy ebooks on the Internet.



Now people all over the world can read the same book!



Writing books

With digital technology, it's quicker to write a book, too. All you need is a mouse, a keyboard and a computer. You can also talk into a microphone and see your words appear on the screen.



I'm going to write a book!



1 Read the text on Pupil's Book pages 84–85. Then read and correct the error in each sentence.

1 The pages of handmade books were made from ~~paper~~.

animal skins

2 There were beautiful photographs in handmade books.

3 Johannes Gutenberg invented audio books.

4 Gutenberg's invention made books more expensive.

5 The first audio books were on the Internet.

6 Now you can tell your computer a story and hear your words on the screen.



2 Write the type of books. Then look at the text on Pupil's Book pages 84–85 to check your answers.

1 You can listen to these books.

audio books

2 These are made from paper.

3 You can read these on an e-reader, tablet or smartphone.

4 You can see these in some museums.

1 Write the words.

machines

invention

download

material

ink

- 1 We can do things more quickly now because we use machines to help us.
- 2 _____ is a liquid you need in pens and printers.
- 3 The computer was a fantastic _____ which changed our lives.
- 4 If you want something from the Internet on your own computer, you _____ it.
- 5 Paper, plastic and metal are three different types of _____.

2 Circle the words to complete the text

The history of books

In the past, people wrote books by hand. They dipped a pen made from a feather in ¹ **water** / **ink** and wrote on a ² **material** / **machine** which they made from animal skins. They sometimes used gold and silver to make the pictures in the book more ³ **beautiful** / **ugly**. In the 15th century, Gutenberg made a ⁴ **machine** / **laptop** which printed books. His ⁵ **material** / **invention** made it possible to make books more cheaply so more people learned to read. Now people can ⁶ **text** / **download** books from the Internet so we don't need to print so many.