Online Discussion Board

Which is better — a print textbook or an online textbook?

10-16-2013, 03:06 PM

Melanie

You can't even compare the two! A print textbook is just a bunch of words and pictures… an online textbook can include interactive games, videos, discussion pages, and just about anything else you can imagine!

10-16-2013, 03:20 PM

Edgar

Melanie, I get your point… but isn't it possible to have too many options? It's hard enough to get students to concentrate when they just have to read a few pages in a textbook. Won't they be more confused if they have a bunch of other features online? I have a feeling that the temptation to "surf the internet" will be too much, so that a student who is supposed to be studying math will end up reading about college basketball… or just chatting online with his friends.

10-16-2013, 04:31 PM

Jonathan

Edgar, of course students are going to be tempted to do things other than their assignments (nothing new there). But I think that what Melanie was saying is that the games and videos will help students become MORE engaged, so they will actually be willing to stay on task and learn something!

10-16-2013, 04:35 PM

Deidre

I'm going to take a simpler approach… wouldn't online textbooks be awesome just because you wouldn't have to carry around a bunch of huge books in your backpack! With one little laptop (or Smartphone), you can have more information at your fingertips. Plus, you'd be saving a ton of paper, and the trees will thank you for it!

10-16-2013, 04:39 PM

Brent

Deidre, you brought up a good point, but I think it's a reason why online textbooks would NOT work. You said that everyone can get the information on a laptop or a Smartphone? Well, what about kids who don't have those things? And what if your internet is down? "My internet was down" will be the new "My dog ate my homework" excuse.

Source: Open online discussion forum.   The topic is provided by a mediator, and comments can freely be posted by anyone.