

*Unit 8*

# *What the future hold?*



# COMPUTERS

Read the words and definitions. Three of them are mixed. Find and match them properly

- **access (something)** — have the ability or right to enter or use
  - **doubt** — a feeling of being unsure
  - **current** — take the place of something or somebody
  - **on-line** — belonging to the present time
  - **predict (something)** — see or describe the future
  - **provide (somebody with something)** — to supply
  - **remain** — continue to be unchanged
  - **replace (something)** — connected with the computer network
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Fill in the gaps with the words to make the lines rhyme.

access

doubt

current

on-line

predict

complete

remain

replace

provide



There isn't any **doubt**  
That the book will soon die out  
Some of them will still **remain**  
That's the reason for my pain  
New computers will **replace**  
Those working "at a snail's pace"  
Everybody will **access**  
All the info we possess  
I **predict** that news **on-line**  
Will be **current** all the time  
Please **complete** this silly rhyme  
With the words you've learnt this  
time!

# Printed books or computers?



Dana

• Tick the arguments each speaker used.



Computers allow us to access the latest information really quickly.



It's much easier to edit and print documents using a PC.



Interaction with the world is a great advantage of a computer.

Michael



Books are enjoyable things.



One of the good things about a book is that you can take it to bed.



Fiona

- A printed page is better for human eyes than a computer screen.
- Printed books are cheaper and easier to use.

Andrew

- Printed books don't need electricity.
- Books have always been a part of human culture, so they will be used as well as computers.

Emma

- Large amount of information become available through computers.
- Computers are better at strong information.

Compare the sentences below. • Which verb form expresses the strongest degree of certainty ?

1. Computers **are going to** replace books in the future. (There is much evidence of that).

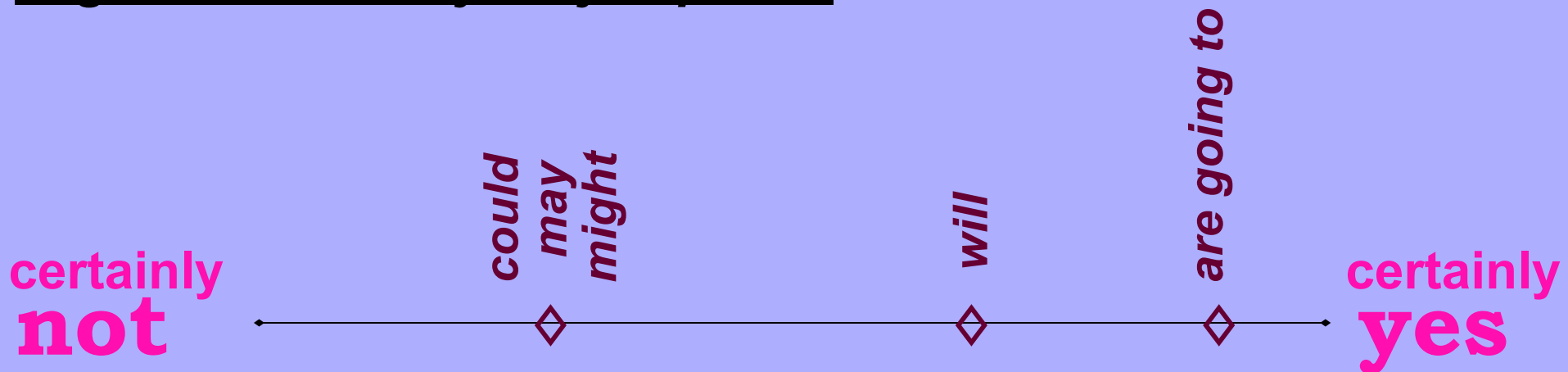
2. Computers **will** replace books in the future. (I'm quite sure)

3. Computers **may** replace books in the future. (It is quite possible)

4. Computers **might** replace books in the future. (It is possible)

5. Computers **could** replace books in the future. (It is possible)

On the scale try to place the verbs according to the degree of certainty they express.



There are some grammar errors. Suggest a correction if it's necessary.

A. I'm sure the paper book **wight** be around for a long time. They look and feel great and they **would** always remain the same. Paperback books are lightweight (lighter than most laptop computers) and relatively low-cost. Computers **might** become cheaper, too, but they definitely **witly** be more expensive than books, books are easy to use and it's clear that people **will** always prefer paperback books.

The book was Invented 500 years ago by Aldo Manuzio in Venice, Italy. So much time has passed that there is no doubt that books **cwild** change a lot. Cheap, handy, pocket-size electronic books **will** soon appear and replace all paperback books. Though people **keep** some books they **will** be found only in museums.

And one more thing. People **won't** waste a lot of timber to produce e-books and this **will** save the forests.

B.

**Read the text (SB p.23) again. Read the summary . It contains four factual mistakes. Find and correct them.**

*The author raises the problem of the future of books. **She agrees** with Marshall McLuhan's opinion that computers will conquer the world. She says that printed **books have no future**. Irma has some sentimental memories about how **she read** "Don Quixote de la Mancha". But the electronic era has changed her relationship with books and now she thinks that **books on-line are entirely replacing printed books**.*

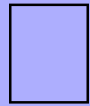
1- The author doesn't agree, that people in future will prefer computers to books.

2 – Irma's view is that printed books will not disappear.

3 - Irma didn't read "Don Quixote de la Mancha", her grandfather read it to her.

4 – Irma doesn't think that books on-line are replacing printed books.





**What will happen  
to books and  
computers  
in 10 years'  
time?**

