

Writing

4 Read the article and circle the correct phrases.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of e-readers?

E-readers are cool little gadgets that are becoming more and more popular with both adults and children. This device is used to read books which have been downloaded from the Internet.

The (1) good thing about / on the other hand e-readers is that they are small and portable. They are very light, and you can take them with you almost anywhere. One of (2) the main advantages / what I like of e-readers is that they are environmentally friendly. Books are made from paper and paper comes from trees. With an e-reader, no trees need to be cut down so that you can enjoy your favourite book.

(3) Another drawback / On the other hand, many books are still not available for download. This means that you might not be able to use your e-reader to read the book of your choice.

(4) The main problem / Another problem with e-readers is that they are expensive to buy, and book downloads can cost a lot too.

In my opinion, e-readers will never be as popular as books. It's true that they are easy to carry and kind to the environment. However, there is something wonderful about walking into a book shop and selecting that special book that you've been dying to read. It's also nice that most 'real' books are cheaper than the books you can download.



Remember!

We can use these phrases in an article to talk about advantages:

The good thing about ... is that ...

What I like about ... is that ...

One of the main advantages of ... is that ...

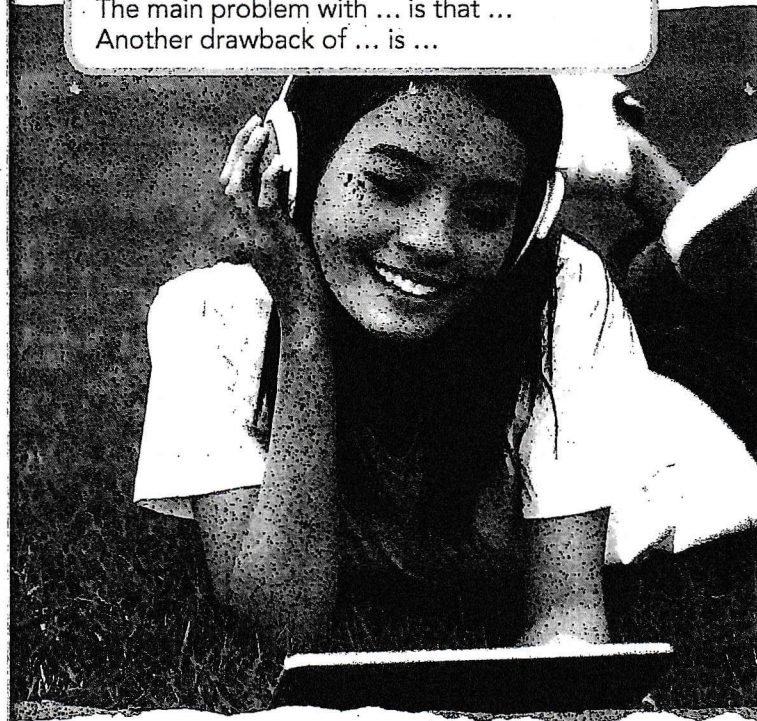
On the one hand, ...

We can use these phrases in an article to talk about disadvantages:

On the other hand, ...

The main problem with ... is that ...

Another drawback of ... is ...



5 Write an article with the title, 'What are the advantages and disadvantages of using smartphones?' Don't forget to use the phrases in the Remember! box. Use this plan to help you.

Paragraph 1

What are smartphones and who uses them? Why do they use them? How much/often do they use them?

Paragraph 2

Talk about the advantages of using a smartphone.

Advantage 1: ...

Advantage 2: ...

Paragraph 3

Talk about the disadvantages of using a smartphone.

Disadvantage 1: ...

Disadvantage 2: ...

Paragraph 4

What is your personal opinion?

