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CafeScribe is a tool that can be used on laptops, tablets and smartphones. The tool allows students access to their books when both connected to the internet and to downloaded versions when they are not. The ability to highlight, take notes and collaborate with teachers and other students is also available. Your school may have decided which features to activate based on their needs.

A school may choose to adopt a digital textbook for the entire class or make a digital version of the bound book available as an option based on publisher availability. You will see "Digital Textbook" as an option next to "New" and "Used" options.

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Common Questions about digital textbooks

Q: Is there a Digital Textbook equivalent available for every textbook?

A: No. Book publishers digitize existing textbooks or write digital-only books based on a number of factors. Your teachers or school can take digital availability into account when they decide what books to use for classes, and may include digital when they think it will be helpful to the learning process and/or where they believe students will have access to digital formats. The bookstore offers digital textbooks in partnership with your school.

Q: Is the Digital Textbook less expensive than a bound book?

A: Pricing depends on publisher costs. Different publishers have different models, but generally a digital textbook saves 40-60% over the cost of a traditional new textbook.

Q: Can I return a Digital Textbook?

A: Yes. The virtual bookstore's regular return policy applies to digital textbooks. See the virtual bookstore website for details.

Q: What devices can I use to access my CafeScribe book?

A: PC and Mac laptops, iPad, iPhone and Android are supported with additional formats being added as they are developed.

Q: Is there a difference between a "Digital Textbook" and an "eBook"?

A: Yes. Digital textbooks are designed so users can use them like they would use a bound textbook: skip through sections, take notes, and read diagrams, graphs and other images. Digital textbooks go a step further than traditional textbooks with added features like notes summaries on one page and collaboration with others. eBooks are meant to be read cover-to-cover like novels and work best on eReaders like the Amazon Kindle. CafeScribe was developed specifically to house digital textbooks and organize the functions associated with textbook most conducive to education.

Q: Can I sell or trade my Digital Textbook after classes end?

A: No. You have rights to book content on your account only, so you cannot sell or give away a digital textbook.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: Visit www.CafeScribe.com or call 877-827-2665 to speak with a Follett Virtual Bookstores representative.