

Using EPUBs To Retire the PDF

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Topics Covered

- Introduction to EPUBs
- Where to find EPUBs
- Demonstrate EPUB Advantages over PDFs
- EPUB Workflow

Mindset



Why we want to retire the PDF

- They are time consuming to make accessible.
- They are not mobile friendly.
- They lack robust functionality.



What we looked for

- The replacement had to be mobile friendly and easy to make accessible
- It had to fit into our existing workflow
- It had to have a low learning curve



Enter DASIY

- To join the EPUB in Higher Education Working Group email George Kerscher at kerscher@montana.com



When we found EPUB's



What is EPUB

- A standard for authoring and distributing digital publications and documents
- A format more widely usable than PDFs
- You've probably read an EPUB... even if you didn't know it.

Why Users Like EPUBs

- **Readability:** The reflowable nature of EPUB 3 adapts itself to different size displays including cell phones and tablets.
- **Flexibility/Adaptability:** Every reflowable EPUB 3 document can be, with a single click to increase the font size, available in large-print.
- **Customization:** Change background and font colors easily with EPUB
- **Navigation:** excellent opportunities for high level navigation via the table of contents and direct page access.

Where to find EPUBs

Online bookstores that use EPUB as their primary format include:

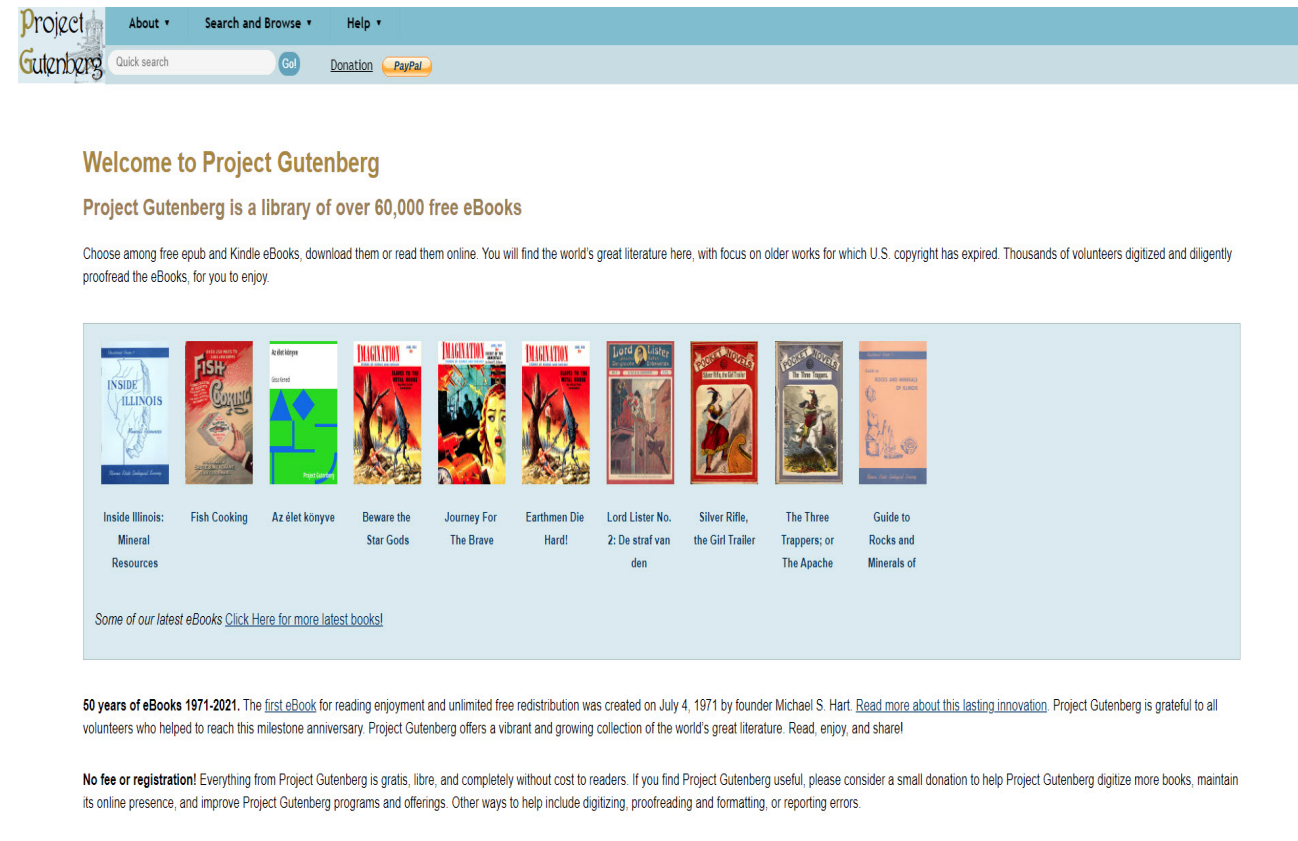
- [Apple's Book Store](#)
- [Google Play Books](#)

Providers of EPUB textbooks include:

- [VitalSource](#)
- [RedShelf](#)

Project Gutenberg

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The screenshot shows the Project Gutenberg website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for "About", "Search and Browse", and "Help". Below this is a search bar with a "Go!" button and a "Donation" button with a "PayPal" logo. The main heading reads "Welcome to Project Gutenberg" followed by the text "Project Gutenberg is a library of over 60,000 free eBooks". A paragraph below states: "Choose among free epub and Kindle eBooks, download them or read them online. You will find the world's great literature here, with focus on older works for which U.S. copyright has expired. Thousands of volunteers digitized and diligently proofread the eBooks, for you to enjoy." Below this is a grid of ten book covers with their titles listed underneath: "Inside Illinois: Mineral Resources", "Fish Cooking", "Az élet könyve", "Beware the Star Gods", "Journey For The Brave", "Earthmen Die Hard!", "Lord Lister No. 2: De straf van den", "Silver Rifle, the Girl Trailer", "The Three Trappers; or The Apache", and "Guide to Rocks and Minerals of". A link "Click Here for more latest books!" is provided. At the bottom, a paragraph commemorates the "50 years of eBooks 1971-2021" and another paragraph states "No fee or registration!" and provides information on how to help the project.

Project Gutenberg


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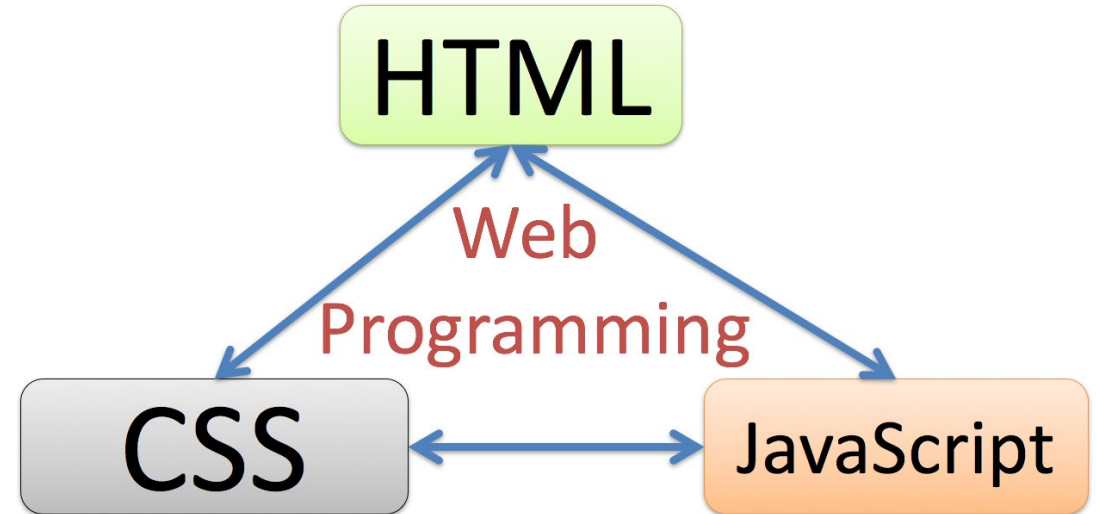
How are EPUBs Built?

- Essentially a website that has been compressed into a single file
- Relies on web technologies which provide a greater opportunity for accessibility and reflow across multiple devices



You Don't Need to be a web developer

- EPUB 3 is built on web development technologies, but you don't need to be a developer to create EPUBs.



EPUB Advantages

- Reflowable and readable on any screen.
- Faster, easier, and cheaper to make accessible.
- Can display Accessible STEM content via MathML.



EPUB Features



Easy EPUB Math



Why are we moving away from accessible PDFs?

“PDFs cannot be made mobile responsive. Asking your already impatient users-especially those with only 3G coverage and a small data plan to download an 8MB, two column PDF that requires them to constantly pinch, pull, scroll up, and scroll down just to read the one chunk of content they actually need that’s buried on page 164, is like telling them to suck eggs.”

- Dan Craddock @slowburnweb

Comparison of PDF and EPUB on Mobile



How do I read EPUB's?



- For your PC or Mac, [Thorium Reader](#) is great software for reading EPUB's and it's free and open source.
- Direct Link:
<https://www.edrlab.org/software/thorium-reader/>

For Your Phone or Tablet



- [Dolphin Easy Reader is a free app for phones, tablets, and PC's.](#)

There is no Mac OS version of Dolphin for Mac desktops.

Making an EPUB is getting easier

- Free Word to EPUB tool from the DAISY consortium can be used to create EPUBs from an accessible Word document with just a few clicks. Download the free [Word to EPUB tool visit the DAISY website](#). (PC only)

Garbage In Garbage Out

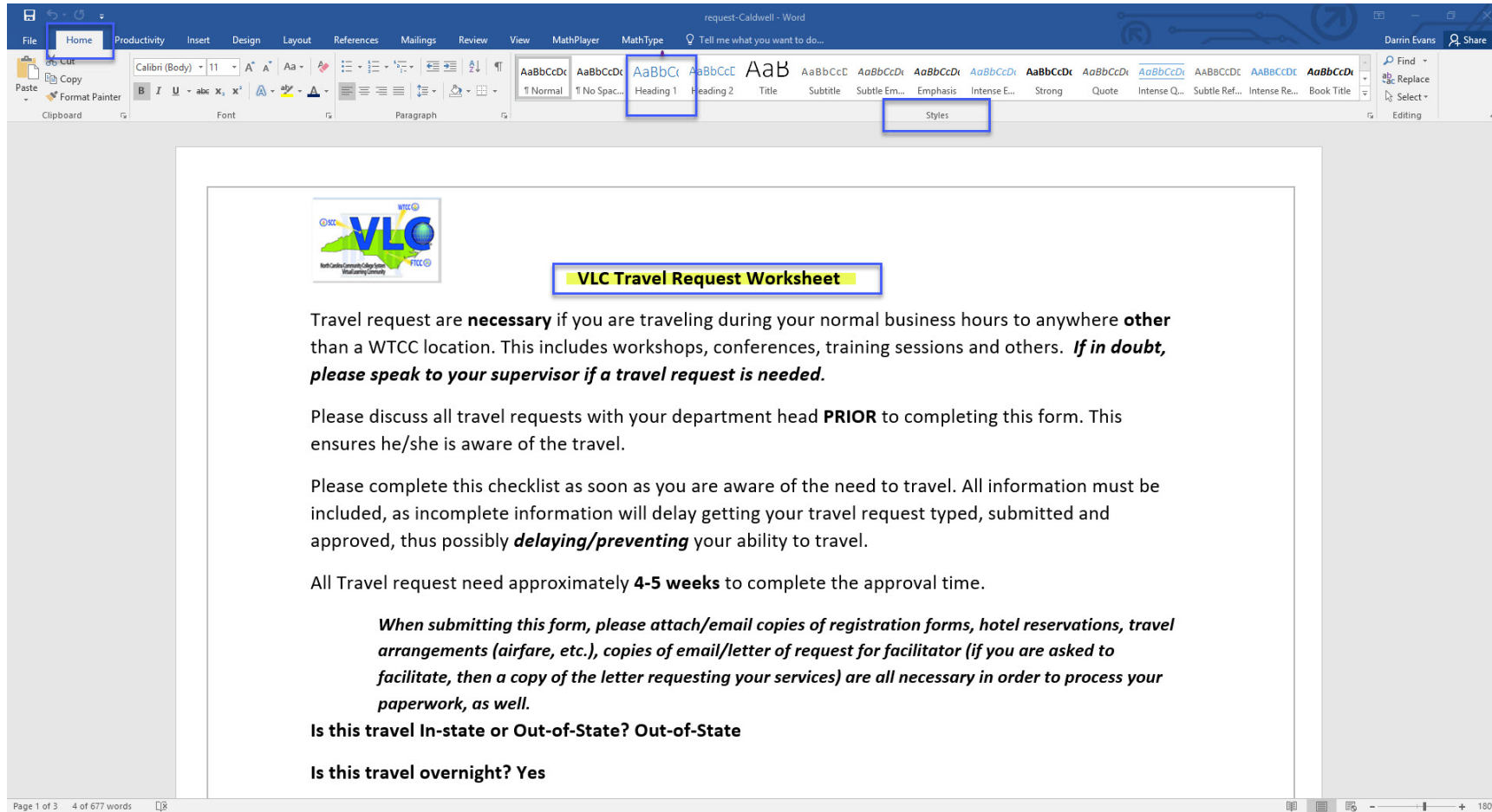
- You must start with a structured accessible Word Document to create an accessible EPUB.
- You will need at least one Heading in your Word source document.

Word Accessibility Basics



- Use built-in Headings and Styles
- Use Table Headers
- Add meaningful descriptive hyperlinks
- Add Alt Text to Images


Headings and Styles



request-Caldwell - Word

File Home Productivity Insert Design Layout References Mailings Review View MathPlayer MathType Tell me what you want to do... Darrin Evans Share

Clipboard Font Paragraph Styles Editing

 **VLC Travel Request Worksheet**

Travel request are **necessary** if you are traveling during your normal business hours to anywhere **other** than a WTCC location. This includes workshops, conferences, training sessions and others. ***If in doubt, please speak to your supervisor if a travel request is needed.***

Please discuss all travel requests with your department head **PRIOR** to completing this form. This ensures he/she is aware of the travel.

Please complete this checklist as soon as you are aware of the need to travel. All information must be included, as incomplete information will delay getting your travel request typed, submitted and approved, thus possibly ***delaying/preventing*** your ability to travel.

All Travel request need approximately **4-5 weeks** to complete the approval time.

When submitting this form, please attach/email copies of registration forms, hotel reservations, travel arrangements (airfare, etc.), copies of email/letter of request for facilitator (if you are asked to facilitate, then a copy of the letter requesting your services) are all necessary in order to process your paperwork, as well.

Is this travel In-state or Out-of-State? Out-of-State

Is this travel overnight? Yes

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Sample Accessible Tables

Table 1: Average Hours of Television Viewed per Day

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	3.5	2	4	3.75	6.25
2	3.25	4	5.5	4.2	6
3	2.75	3.25	4.25	4.25	5.25

Weekly Syllabus

Table 2: Weekly Syllabus

Week	Reading Assignment	Homework Assignment
Week 1	Chapter 1	Page 21 Exercises 1, 3-7
Week 2	Chapter 2, and pages 51-62	Page 62 Exercises 2, 4, 6-8
Week 3	Chapters 3-4	Page 121 Exercises 3-8
Week 4	Chapter 5	Page 154 Exercises 1-5

Hyperlinks

1. Where is the link going?
2. What will be viewed? (Why is the link provided?)
3. What happens when the link is clicked?

Wake Tech's Flavors Restaurant (opens in a new window)

The diagram illustrates the three components of a hyperlink using the example "Wake Tech's Flavors Restaurant (opens in a new window)". Three curly braces are positioned below the text to group it into three parts. Under the first brace, the text "Where the link is going" is written in blue. Under the second brace, the text "Why the link is provided" is written in blue. Under the third brace, the text "What else happens" is written in blue.

Where the link is going

Why the link is provided

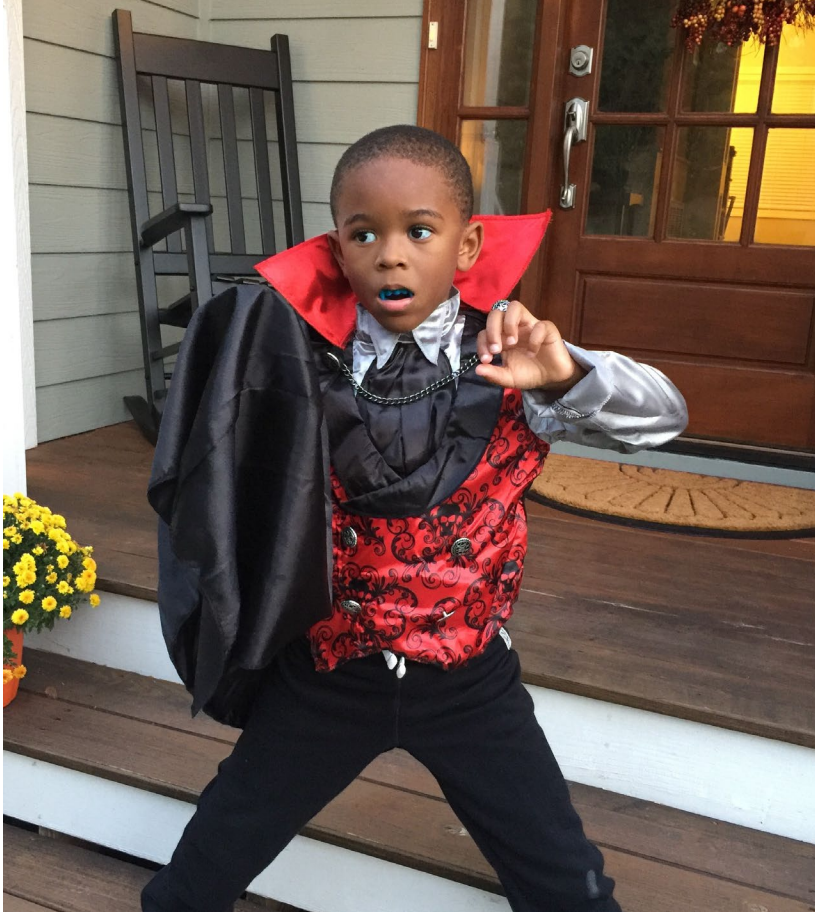
What else happens

Alternative Text Part 1



- Alternative Text Help us with 2 goals:
 - It helps make images available to people with visual impairments
 - It helps us make sure our images are truly adding value to our content

Alternative Text Part 2



- Key Points:
 - Context is key
 - Consider your audience
 - Be concise
 - Be objective
 - General to Specific
 - Tone and Language

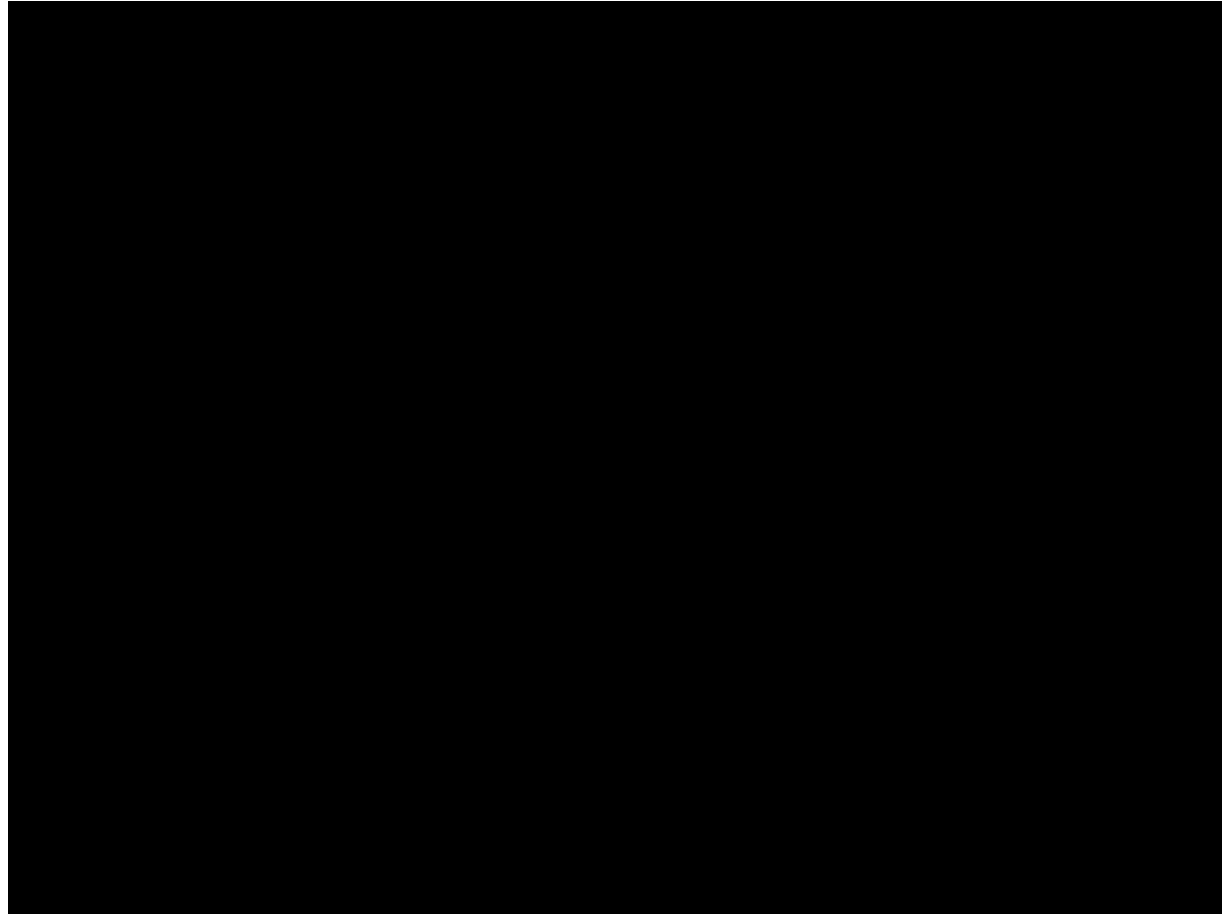
Using WordToEPUB

It is quick and easy to create EPUBs with this free plugin.

1. Start with an accessible file in Microsoft Word
2. Check your work with the built-in accessibility checker
3. Export to EPUB with the free [WordToEPUB](#) plugin



WordToEPUB - Demonstration



EPUB Resources

- Free Word to EPUB tool from the DAISY consortium can be used to create EPUBs from an accessible Word document with just a few clicks. To download the free [Word to EPUB tool visit the DAISY website](#).
- Read the [DAISY Consortium's white paper](#) on the benefits of EPUB 3
- The AEM Center [Getting Started with EPUB](#)
- [Thorium Reader](#) is an EPUB reading application for mac, windows, and linux
- The accessibility of an EPUB can be checked using the free [Ace by DAISY Accessibility Checker](#)

Reasons to Retire The PDF

- PDF's are difficult, expensive and time consuming to make accessible
- PDF's are not mobile friendly
- Replacing PDF's is now simple and direct with WordToEPUB
- Replacing PDF's will require no change to your existing workflow
- EPUB's are now the emerging standard for the publishing industry

Questions

