



Title:	A plea for the future of pocket sized books	Level: medium
Text:	<p>Sonoe told us about a request from the head of public libraries in Japan for users not to borrow 'pocket sized' books, as the writers and publishing industry are struggling to make a living due to lack of demand.</p> <p>This seems a strange request to me as I can't imagine that many people would go to libraries to get the latest releases of popular novels. Surely, most people buy instead of borrowing, given that supply is fast through the likes of Amazon.</p> <p>Also, if demand for popular titles was reduced in libraries, then I would expect they would order fewer, too, resulting in further reduced sales.</p>	
Discussion:	What is the best way to halt declining book sales, do you think?	
Words and usage:	<p>Reduced v. declining</p> <p>Both mean lowering of size, number or performance. 'Declining' indicates that something is reducing to a finish, such as an industry or a person's health.</p>	
Resources:	<p>https://translate.weblio.jp</p> <p>Oxford Dictionaries. http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com</p> <p>The British Council website. https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org</p>	
Practice idea:	Write about an industry that has declined in recent years, and the reasons for it.	
Listening link:	<p>Plea by public libraries - audio</p> 	
Quiz Me! Conversation card:	<p>Card number F1 below is from Level 1 pack 1, available at englishbooks.jp, Amazon and Rakuten</p>  <p>What was the last book you read?</p> <p><small>quizme.jp</small></p>	