

# Publishing

**Quotations** "To write what is worth publishing, to find honest people to publish it, and get sensible people to read it, are the three great difficulties in being an author".

- Charles Caleb Colton

"There's a lot more to publishing a book than writing it and slapping a cover on it".

- Vince Flynn

## Questions

- How many different areas of publishing can you think of?
- Have you, or anyone you know, published a book or magazine article?
- Have you ever thought of a great idea for a book or the next great novel?
- Do you think individuals who publish a book automatically become wealthy and well known?
- Do you believe authors have a better chance of being read now that self-publishing is so easily available?
- Can you think of the different stages of publishing? (editing, printing, marketing and distribution)
- What are the legal aspects of publishing?
- What is the difference between paid and non-paid authors? What are the advantages and disadvantages for both?
- Science fiction writer Michael A. Stackpole said, "Cars did not kill off horses. Digital publishing will not kill off books". Do you agree with him?
- Do you read, or have you read, published works on a tablet or a smart phone?
- The printing press was invented in the Holy Roman Empire by the German Johannes Gutenberg around 1440. How did this invention revolutionise communication?
- Do publishers retain enormous powers over their readers? Why or why not?
- Are content producers easily corrupted by corporate interests?

**Presentation** Ask students to break into groups. Have them come up with ideas for the next great novel, news that should be printed, or ideas they would like to see put into print.