The text shows the differences between traditional (printed) dictionaries and the electronic ones. It also outlines the wide range of possibilities given by electronic dictionaries: cross-references, multimedia, a user-friendly structure (e.g. both aspects of a verb noted as separate entries, full grammatical information in each entry, a variety of examples showing typical uses of a lexical item, supported by full bibliographic information, less abbreviations), the possibility of changing the text (correcting mistakes, adding new subsenses, including state-of-the-art normative approach). The authors also show that electronic dictionaries suit foreigners’ needs. The text points out several disadvantages of dictionaries compiled solely in the electronic versions.