



By Dr. Telly Kamelia

If you only need the buying answer, 180-day digital access and semester rental are both a little cheaper than the current Merybook print listing. But the current paperback is still dramatically below the broader print market and tied with Kindle pricing, so ownership remains reasonable for students who know terminology will keep returning across later healthcare courses.

Current price comparison

Format / Seller	Price	Link
Print from Merybook	\$89.99	Check price
Amazon paperback	\$173.32	Check price
Amazon used	\$114.99	Check price
Amazon Kindle	\$89.99	Check price
eCampus semester rental	\$86.66	Check price
eCampus digital, 180 days	\$71.99	Check price

The print-versus-digital gap here is real, but it is not the whole story. Yes, short-term digital access is cheaper. But the current Merybook paperback is still far below the wider print market and exactly tied with Kindle. For a terminology text that often keeps resurfacing across a program, that makes ownership more rational than the one-term price difference alone suggests.

What this book actually teaches

Medical Terminology: A Living Language matters because terminology is not a one-course subject. It becomes the language through which students later read anatomy, charting, patient-care instructions, assessment materials, and clinical documentation. A good terminology text teaches patterns in roots, prefixes, suffixes, and clinical word construction so that later healthcare learning becomes less opaque.

That is why this kind of book often stays useful longer than students first expect. The first course may feel introductory, but the language keeps returning in nursing, allied health, medical assisting, and other healthcare pathways. A copy that already contains the student's own word-building notes and reminders can keep paying off across multiple classes.

Who should buy print and who should not

Buy print if you are headed into a healthcare track where terminology will keep resurfacing. The current print listing is much stronger than the broader ownership market and reasonable for long-term reuse.

Choose digital only if the priority is the lowest immediate one-term cost and you are comfortable giving up ownership. That still wins on pure short-term price.

Sources checked

- Merybook product listing for ISBN 9780138029999
- Amazon pricing snapshots for paperback, used, and Kindle formats
- eCampus pricing snapshots for semester rental and 180-day digital access
- Pricing reviewed on April 19, 2026