

Video games should be in Olympics

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A top designer for one of the world's most popular computer games has said that video games should be an Olympics sport. Rob Pardo, who was chief creative designer for the

World of Warcraft game, told the BBC his game and other video games should be part of the Olympic Games. He said the competition needed to become more modern and up-to-date. He added that millions of people around the world love playing and watching competitive gaming, which is also known as e-sports. Mr Pardo said: "I think the way that you look at e-sports is that it's a very competitive skillset...You look at these professional gamers and the reflexes are lightning quick... and they're having to make very quick decisions on the fly."

Pardo told the BBC that it would be difficult to get e-sports into the Olympics. He said many people do not even see it as a real sport. He argues it is proper sport because it takes a lot of physical effort and skill and is very exciting to watch. He believes it is a better and more popular sport than many of those already in the Olympics. Pardo said many people did not want gaming to become an Olympic sport because it is based on technology and not athleticism. The PC Magazine website suggests there should be a separate international competition just for e-sports, that could follow a format like the Olympics. This would make gaming the star of the show rather than just another event among many in the Olympics.

Sources: BBC / PC Gamer / PC Mag

Writing

Gaming should be an Olympics sports. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

designer / video games / creative / competition / modern / millions / e-sports / quick / difficult / physical effort / skill / technology / format / gaming / the star of the show

True / False

- A software company boss said gaming should be in the Olympics. T / F
- A designer said gaming would make the Olympics more modern. T / F
- The designer said that gaming was part of something called i-sport. T / F
- The designer spoke about a gamer who was hit by lightning. T / F
- The designer thinks it would be easy to get gaming into the Olympics. T / F
- Gamers need a lot of physical effort and skill. T / F
- The designer said gaming is better than many Olympic sports. T / F
- A technology magazine suggested a separate gaming Olympics. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. top | a. real |
| 2. popular | b. contemporary |
| 3. modern | c. different |
| 4. competition | d. leading |
| 5. professional | e. energy |
| 6. difficult | f. salaried |
| 7. proper | g. well-liked |
| 8. effort | h. style |
| 9. separate | i. contest |
| 10. format | j. hard |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you think of the Olympic Games?
- Should gaming be in the Olympic Games?
- Is gaming a sport?
- Is gaming more exciting to watch than many Olympic sports?
- What's your favourite Olympics sport and why?
- Do the Olympic Games need to be more up-to-date?
- What do you think of the idea of gaming as an "e-sport"?
- How skillful are gamers?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the world's most popular | a. like the Olympics |
| 2. chief creative | b. quick |
| 3. the competition needed to become | c. designer |
| 4. up-to- | d. athleticism |
| 5. the reflexes are lightning | e. the show |
| 6. it takes a lot of physical | f. computer games |
| 7. based on technology and not | g. competition |
| 8. a separate international | h. date |
| 9. follow a format | i. more modern |
| 10. the star of | j. effort |

Discussion – Student B

- Which is better to watch, gaming or the 10km walk (and why)?
- How much physical strength do gamers need?
- Would gaming make the Olympics more popular?
- Do events in the Olympics need to be about athleticism?
- Is an international "gaming Olympics" a good idea?
- Who do you admire most, a top runner or a top gamer?
- How much technology should be in the Olympics?
- What questions would you like to ask Rob Pardo?

Spelling

- A top engerisd
- more modern and uo-ea-dptt
- inlimol of people
- it's a very iecvtmitepo skillset
- the reflexes are nnitigghl quick
- make very quick ssdeiiocn
- it would be flduciift
- it is erropp sport
- it takes a lot of lycipsah effort
- it is based on tocelhnogy
- a rtaeaspe international competition
- follow a taomrf like the Olympics

Answers – Synonym Match

1. d	2. g	3. b	4. i	5. f
6. j	7. a	8. e	9. c	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Gaming

You think gaming should be the new Olympics sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good for the Olympics. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Formula 1, chess or sky diving.

Role B – Formula 1

You think Formula 1 should be the new Olympics sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good for the Olympics. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): gaming, chess or sky diving.

Role C – Chess

You think chess should be the new Olympics sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good for the Olympics. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Formula 1, gaming or sky diving.

Role D – Sky diving

You think sky diving should be the new Olympics sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good for the Olympics. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Formula 1, chess or gaming.

Speaking – Sport

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| • cricket | • football (soccer) |
| • boxing | • ice hockey |
| • Formula 1 | • rugby |
| • cycling | • basketball |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.