

In this task, you will:

- retrieve information from non-fiction
- distinguish between fact and opinion
- explain and discuss what you have read and provide justification for your views.

Read the text below and answer the questions. If you're anxious about your comprehension skills, try questions 1-6. If you're feeling confident, do questions 1-9. If you're raring to go, try the challenge too!

Would you spend hours watching someone playing video games?

If you have a young person in your house it's unlikely that you're unaware of the latest gaming phenomenon - *Fortnite*.

Published by Epic Games with over 125 million players, Fortnite is a single or multi-player survival game set on modern-day Earth. Thanks to a sudden worldwide storm, most of the world's population has been wiped out and those people remaining face attack from zombie-like creatures. Players work together on missions to collect resources and build fortifications, weapons and traps to defend themselves against the uprising.

Whilst the popularity of such a game may not be surprising, what could be considered surprising is the popularity of watching gamers in action via online streaming platforms such as Twitch. Emmett Shear, co-founder of Twitch, compares watching gamers to watching sports stars or chefs on TV: 'You're enjoying watching someone who's really great at it with some entertainment at the same time.'

Twitch is a free service, but many choose to subscribe to other platforms to watch the top gamers like Ninja, who makes millions streaming his live Fortnite action. 'The people who make the most money surprisingly aren't necessarily the best gamers, they're often the ones who are most entertaining,' explains Shear. 'Ninja is a prime example ... very high energy, very entertaining to watch.'

Whether you're keen to watch or, like me, it sounds about as interesting to you as watching paint dry, it looks as though Fortnite and its live streamers are here to stay. At least until the next gaming phenomenon sweeps the world.

1. Who publishes *Fortnite*?

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2. When and where is *Fortnite* set?

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3. What is the aim of the game?

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4. What is Twitch?

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5. What does Emmett Shear compare watching gamers to doing?

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6. Which gamers make the most money?

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7. What do you think the writer of this article thinks of watching gamers? What makes you think this?

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8. Would you say this article is mostly based on fact or opinion?

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9. Find three facts from the article which haven't featured as answers to the questions.

I.

II.

.....

III.

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Now find an example of an opinion:

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Answers

1. Who publishes *Fortnite*?
Epic Games.
2. When and where is *Fortnite* set?
On modern-day Earth.
3. What is the aim of the game?
Players work together on missions to collect resources and build fortifications, weapons and traps to defend themselves against a zombie uprising.
4. What is Twitch?
An online streaming platform.
5. What does Emmett Shear compare watching gamers to doing?
To watching sports stars or chefs on TV.
6. Which gamers make the most money?
The gamers who are the most entertaining. (Not necessarily the best gamers.)
7. What do you think the writer of this article thinks of watching gamers? What makes you think this?
The writer thinks it's boring as (s)he compares it to watching paint dry.
8. Would you say this article is mostly based on fact or opinion?
Mostly fact.
9. Find three facts from the article which haven't featured as answers to the questions.
Answers may include the following:
 - ***Fortnite is played by over 125 million people.***
 - ***It's a single or multi-player survival game.***
 - ***Emmett Shear is the co-founder of Twitch.***
 - ***Twitch is a free service.***
 - ***Many people subscribe to other platforms to watch gamers.***
 - ***Ninja is a successful gamer who makes millions from streaming as he plays.***

Now find an example of an opinion:

- ***Watching gamers sounds as about as interesting as watching paint dry.***
- ***It looks as though Fortnite is here to stay.***

10. Who publishes *Fortnite*?
Epic Games.
11. When and where is *Fortnite* set?
On modern-day Earth.
12. What is the aim of the game?
Players work together on missions to collect resources and build fortifications, weapons and traps to defend themselves against a zombie uprising.
13. What is Twitch?
An online streaming platform.
14. What does Emmett Shear compare watching gamers to doing?
To watching sports stars or chefs on TV.
15. Which gamers make the most money?
The gamers who are the most entertaining. (Not necessarily the best gamers.)
16. What do you think the writer of this article thinks of watching gamers? What makes you think this?
The writer thinks it's boring as (s)he compares it to watching paint dry.
17. Would you say this article is mostly based on fact or opinion?
Mostly fact.
18. Find three facts from the article which haven't featured as answers to the questions.
Answers may include the following:
- *Fortnite is played by over 125 million people.*
 - *It's a single or multi-player survival game.*
 - *Emmett Shear is the co-founder of Twitch.*
 - *Twitch is a free service.*
 - *Many people subscribe to other platforms to watch gamers.*
 - *Ninja is a successful gamer who makes millions from streaming as he plays.*

Now find an example of an opinion:

- *Watching gamers sounds as about as interesting as watching paint dry.*
- *It looks as though Fortnite is here to stay.*

