

Achievement Tests

Unit 6

Name: _____

Date: _____

PART I: READING

- 1.1** Read the passage about video games. Check (✓) the best prediction of America's most popular video game. There is only one right answer.

When people think of video games, they often imagine a young boy playing a violent video game alone in his room. In truth, most video game players in America are adults, and they prefer sports to violence. Of the top ten most popular video games last year, six were sports games.

- _____ A. *Guitar Hero*
_____ B. *Star Wars: Empire at War*
_____ C. *John Madden Football*
_____ D. *Sim-City*

- 1.2** Now read the entire article. Use the information you read to choose the correct answers.

Teaching with Video Games

When people think of video games, they often imagine a young boy playing a violent video game alone in his room. In truth, most video game players in America are adults, and they prefer sports to violence. Of the top ten most popular video games last year, six were sports games. The number one game was *John Madden Football*. Interestingly, many professional athletes¹ take *John Madden Football* very seriously. "It helps us better understand football," says one athlete, "and we learn to work with our teammates." In fact, video games may be a good way to teach teamwork.

British scientists say children prefer to play video games in groups rather than alone. Now, some teachers use video games in their classes to help children learn to work together. "Children learn to take turns, explain their ideas clearly, and make group decisions," says Margaret Hempstead, a teacher from Nottingham. Mrs. Hempstead uses a variety of video games in her classroom. In these games, children work together to figure out math problems, find patterns in pictures, and follow complex instructions. "The problem," she says, "is that there aren't many serious video games. Most are about entertainment." Mrs. Hempstead hopes game designers produce more educational games in the future. "We already have enough football games," she laughs.

¹ **athlete:** a person who plays sports, like baseball, soccer, or swimming

Check (✓) the best answer to complete each sentence.

1. Most people who play video games in America are _____.
 A. adults
 B. students
 C. young boys
 D. athletes
2. Mrs. Hempstead thinks most video games are not _____.
 A. entertaining
 B. violent
 C. complex
 D. serious
3. The main reason Mrs. Hempstead uses video games is that they teach _____.
 A. teamwork
 B. decision making
 C. math
 D. how to follow instructions
4. Many game designers probably like Mrs. Hempstead because she _____.
 A. has many football video games
 B. uses video games in school
 C. says video games are entertaining
 D. plays video games at home

PART 3: SKILLS FOR SPEAKING


3.1 Look at Celia's schedule. Use the adverbs from the box to complete the sentences below. Each adverb or expression of frequency can be used only once. Not all of them will be used. The first one has been done for you.

	Watches TV	Reads the Newspaper	Takes a Bath	Does the Dishes	Plays Video Games
Monday	X		X	X	
Tuesday			X	X	X
Wednesday	X	X	X	X	
Thursday	X		X	X	
Friday		X	X	X	
Saturday			X	X	
Sunday			X	X	

almost never	every day	once a week	twice a week
always	often	rarely	

_____ *Once a week* _____ Celia plays video games.

- _____ Celia does the dishes after dinner.
- Celia _____ takes a bath before going to bed.
- _____ Celia reads the newspaper.
- Celia _____ watches TV.

3.2  Listen to the sentences. Draw a line under the two sounds that are joined together. The first one has been done for you.

Video gamesare fun.

- What kind of game do you like?
- He isn't going to the video game store.
- When does the store open?

PART 2: VOCABULARY

2.1 Read the paragraph describing the game of chess. Use the words from the box to fill in the blanks. Not all of the words will be used.

board game	combine	digital	mouse	screen
characters	complex	game pieces	opponent	take turns

Chess was originally a board game, but now it is a computer game as well. In chess, there are two different-colored _____, black and white. Each player tries to take those of his _____. The two players _____ moving one piece at a time. Chess is more _____ than other games because the pieces move in different ways. The pieces are like special _____, with different names and ways of moving. The first step is to learn what each piece does.

2.2 Write the words from the box under the type of game they are associated with. Not all of the words will be used.

card	dice	digital	food	mouse	pattern	project	screen
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Board Games

Video Games

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____

PART 3: SKILLS FOR WRITING

3.1 Read the sentences. Complete each one with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

1. When you play a video game, you _____ a friend to play with.
(not need)
2. In chess, when your king cannot make a safe move, the game

(end)
3. I get angry when I _____ a game.
(lose)

3.2 Read each sentence. Add a comma if the sentence needs it. Make an **X** on the line if no comma is necessary.

1. When Joe finishes his school work _____ he usually plays video games.
2. I play cards with my friends _____ when we see each other on weekends.
3. When I was in college _____ I played chess in my free time.

3.3 This paragraph is in the wrong order. Label the topic sentence **TS**, the description **D**, and the reasons for the writer's opinion **R1** and **R2**.

- _____ The first advantage of chess is that it teaches you how to think. You learn about math and how to plan for the future.
- _____ Chess is a two-player strategy game with many unique game pieces. You win the game when you take the other player's king with one of your pieces.
- _____ The next advantage is that you can play it anywhere: at home, on the Internet, or even at a park or on the beach. It truly is the greatest game.
- _____ I think chess is the greatest game in the world.

PART 4: WRITING

A Review (20 minutes)

Write a one-paragraph review of a game people can play with a group.

- Tell the reader which game you will talk about.
- Give a short description of the game.
- Say why you think the game is good for groups.
- Give two or three reasons why the game is good or not.
- Use the vocabulary and grammar from Unit 6.

Unit 6 Vocabulary Words					
board game	combine	dice	figure out	pattern	take it seriously
card	complex	digital	game pieces	screen	take turns
characters	designer	entertainment	opponent	serious	violent
Unit 6 Grammar: Expressing Habitual Present with When- Clauses					
• Monopoly is a good game <i>when you play with a group of people.</i>					