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New computer game music award

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100118-computer_games.html

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18th January, 2010

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100118-computer_games.html

Computer game music now has a special award. Composers of video game scores can win an Ivor Novello prize from this year. These awards are like the Oscars for composers. Usually classical music wins, but Sir Paul McCartney won one once. Computer game music is becoming very popular. Top orchestras around the world have performed the soundtracks to many well-known games. Awards committee member Mark Fishlock said: "Writing music for games requires a number of specialist skills."

It's great that writers of computer game music can win an international award. Lots of video game music is really good. The soundtrack to games like Tomb Raider and World of Warcraft are my favourites. Other music is so addictive that you can't stop humming it. I sometimes can't get the tune to Sonic the Hedgehog out of my head. There are even video game concert tours. One, by Video Games Live, sold over half a million tickets. I think a game music concert would be a lot of fun to go to.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100118-computer_games.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. a special | a. for composers |
| 2. like the Oscars | b. very popular |
| 3. game music is becoming | c. around the world |
| 4. Top orchestras | d. skills |
| 5. many well- | e. award |
| 6. specialist | f. known games |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. win an | a. addictive |
| 2. music is so | b. my head |
| 3. you can't stop | c. to go to |
| 4. out of | d. international award |
| 5. half a | e. humming it |
| 6. a lot of fun | f. million tickets |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100118-computer_games.html

Computer game music _____ award. Composers of video game scores can win an Ivor Novello prize from this year. These _____ Oscars for composers. Usually classical music wins, but Sir Paul McCartney _____. Computer game music is becoming very popular. _____ around the world have performed the soundtracks _____ games. Awards committee member Mark Fishlock said: "Writing music for games requires a number _____."

It's great that writers of computer game _____ international award. Lots of video game _____. The soundtrack to games like Tomb Raider and World of Warcraft are my favourites. Other music _____ that you can't stop humming it. I sometimes can't get the tune to Sonic the Hedgehog out of my head. _____ video game concert tours. One, by Video Games Live, sold _____ tickets. I think a game music concert would _____ go to.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100118-computer_games.html

Computer game music now has a (1) _____ award. Composers of video game scores can win an Ivor Novello prize from this year. These awards are (2) _____ the Oscars for composers. Usually (3) _____ music wins, but Sir Paul McCartney won one once. Computer game music is becoming very popular. Top orchestras around the world have performed the soundtracks to many well-(4) _____ games. Awards committee member Mark Fishlock said: "Writing music for games requires a (5) _____ of specialist skills."

It's great that writers (6) _____ computer game music can win an international award. Lots of video game music is really good. The soundtrack (7) _____ games like Tomb Raider and World of Warcraft are my favourites. Other music is so (8) _____ that you can't stop humming it. I sometimes can't get the tune to Sonic the Hedgehog (9) _____ of my head. There are even video game concert tours. One, by Video Games Live, sold over half a million tickets. I think a game music concert would be a lot of (10) _____ to go to.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) special | (b) specially | (c) specialist |
| 2. | (a) likely | (b) liking | (c) like |
| 3. | (a) classical | (b) classic | (c) classically |
| 4. | (a) knew | (b) known | (c) knowing |
| 5. | (a) numeral | (b) numbers | (c) number |
| 6. | (a) of | (b) by | (c) to |
| 7. | (a) by | (b) to | (c) on |
| 8. | (a) addictive | (b) addict | (c) addiction |
| 9. | (a) in | (b) though | (c) out |
| 10. | (a) funny | (b) fun | (c) funnily |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100118-computer_games.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. a paelics award
2. ciclaassl music
3. very oplpura
4. ndauor the world
5. well-onnwk games
6. specialist ilkssl

Paragraph 2

7. retirsw of computer game music
8. my earofusvt
9. music is so dciavtdei
10. stop iungmhm it
11. tcncroe tours
12. half a million ktscite

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100118-computer_games.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () music for games requires a number of specialist skills.”
- (**1**) Computer game music now has a special award. Composers of video game scores can win an Ivor Novello prize from
- () this year. These awards are like the Oscars for composers. Usually classical music wins, but Sir Paul McCartney won
- () of my head. There are even video game concert tours. One, by Video Games Live, sold
- () good. The soundtrack to games like Tomb Raider and World of Warcraft are my favourites. Other music is so
- () addictive that you can’t stop humming it. I sometimes can’t get the tune to Sonic the Hedgehog out
- () soundtracks to many well-known games. Awards committee member Mark Fishlock said: “Writing
- () one once. Computer game music is becoming very popular. Top orchestras around the world have performed the
- () over half a million tickets. I think a game music concert would be a lot of fun to go to.
- () It’s great that writers of computer game music can win an international award. Lots of video game music is really

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. . music Computer award a now game has special

2. like Oscars These are the awards.

3. popular Game is very music becoming.

4. games many well The - soundtracks known to.

5. specialist a of skills Requires number.

6. win can music Game award international an.

7. good is game of music really . video Lots

8. so addictive that you can't stop humming it Music is.

9. concert game video even are There tours.

10. tickets a over million half Sold.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

WRITING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100118-computer_games.html

Write about computer game music for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

[illegible]

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about the Ivor Novello awards. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about computer game music. Include imaginary interviews with composers of computer game music. What do they think of the Ivor Novello award? Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a computer game music composer. Ask him/her three questions about his/her job. Give him/her three of your opinions on computer game music. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.