



READ THE TEXT AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW

POKÉMON GO CRAZE

An app that began as an April Fools joke has become a worldwide phenomenon, taking gamers out of the living room and on to the streets as they compete to capture, train and battle Pokémon characters using their mobile phones.

In just seven days since the game was released in the US, Australia and New Zealand, Pokémon Go has now almost certainly exceeded Twitter's 65 million American users.

The share price of Nintendo, which owns a third of the Pokémon Company, has **rocketed** by 50%, and the release of the game in other countries – including the UK – has been put on hold while the developers **struggle** to cope with demand.

When the app is opened, it shows a map of the area around the player, with various points of interest marked – statues, clock towers and so on. Physically walk up to one of the points, referred to in the game as a Pokéstop, then **tap** an icon on screen and you're rewarded with items and experience points.

But the **core** of the game is the Pokémon themselves, which can appear anywhere, any time (though often themed around the location, with ghost-type Pokémon appearing in graveyards and water-type creatures near lakes and rivers). Tap on one of them and a minigame starts, in which the aim is to catch a Pokémon.

The game is not just for solo players. Some locations have become hubs of Pokémon activity. New York's Central Park, for instance, has been bustling not just with the usual crowds of sightseers but with players checking their phones for nearby Pokémon.

Pokémon Go is a spin-off of the long-running Pokémon series, in which players capture and battle the titular creatures (short for "pocket monsters") in their **quest** to become the greatest Pokémon trainer in the world. Unlike in earlier videogames, players move around the real world looking for Pokémon to capture.

1 Match the word from the text with its synonym (1 mark)

rocket struggle tap core quest

- a. Essence
- b. Touch
- c. Make an effort
- d. Mission
- e. Ascend

2 Rewrite the sentence so that it has a similar meaning, using the word given (2 marks)

- a. When the app is opened, it shows a map of the area around the player (SHOWN)
- b. They compete to capture, train and battle Pokémon characters using their mobile phones (USE)
- c. Physically walk up to a Pokéstop, then **tap** an icon on screen and you're rewarded . (IF)
- d. Unlike in earlier videogames, players move around the real world. (DON'T HAVE TO)



3 Complete the sentences (2 marks)

- a. The Pokémon can...
- b. They reward you...
- c. A Pokéstop ...
- d. The players whose...

4 Fill in the gaps with one or more suitable word/s . (1.5 marks)

The real-world aspects of the game have also, inevitably, led to a darker side emerging. Police in Missouri (1)_____ a group of men were waiting near a Pokéstop in a secluded location to target players, and a woman from Wyoming stumbled upon a dead body (2)_____ trying to reach a water-type Pokemon apparently living in a river by her trailer. In New Jersey, police were moved to remind residents: "Normally you (3)_____ go to a deserted alley at 3am. That shouldn't change just because an app said you should." The craze (4)_____ the game is a huge step up from its beginnings as an April Fools joke launched by Google in 2014. For one day, Pokémon appeared (5)_____ Google Maps, letting browsers search for them at real-world landmarks. "

5 You are going to read an extract about video games. Four sentences have been removed from it. Choose from sentences 1 to 4 (1 mark)

Video games make more money than any other kinds of gadgets or toys because of their accessibility to a wider audience, especially with the recent proliferation of technology and mobile devices throughout the world. And these days, (1)_____, smart phones have nearly guaranteed that you are at least mildly guilty of wasting time swallowing ghosts or chucking birds.

Over 20 million copies of Pokémon were sold by Nintendo for Gameboy. Developed by Game Freak, the first installments were Red and Green, (2)_____. Blue was later released in the year as a special edition, with Pokemon Yellow subsequently released three years later. Pokemon Fire Red and Leaf Green were remade afterwards for the Game Boy Advance in 2004.

Published by Nintendo for its Nintendo 64 and released in June 23, (3)_____. The third-person, free roaming, 3D platform was the brainchild of Shigeru Miyamoto who had spent years trying to build a fully-3D platform for the SNES before he quit the idea altogether. However, (4) _____, he played a big role in helping the company .

- A. which were released in Japan in 1996.
- B. 1996 Super Mario 64 sold over 11 million copies worldwide.
- C. whether you're a hard core gamer or not
- D. when the company shifted to the development of N64

6 Write 50-75-word opinion essay on the Pokémon Go Search. (2.5 marks)