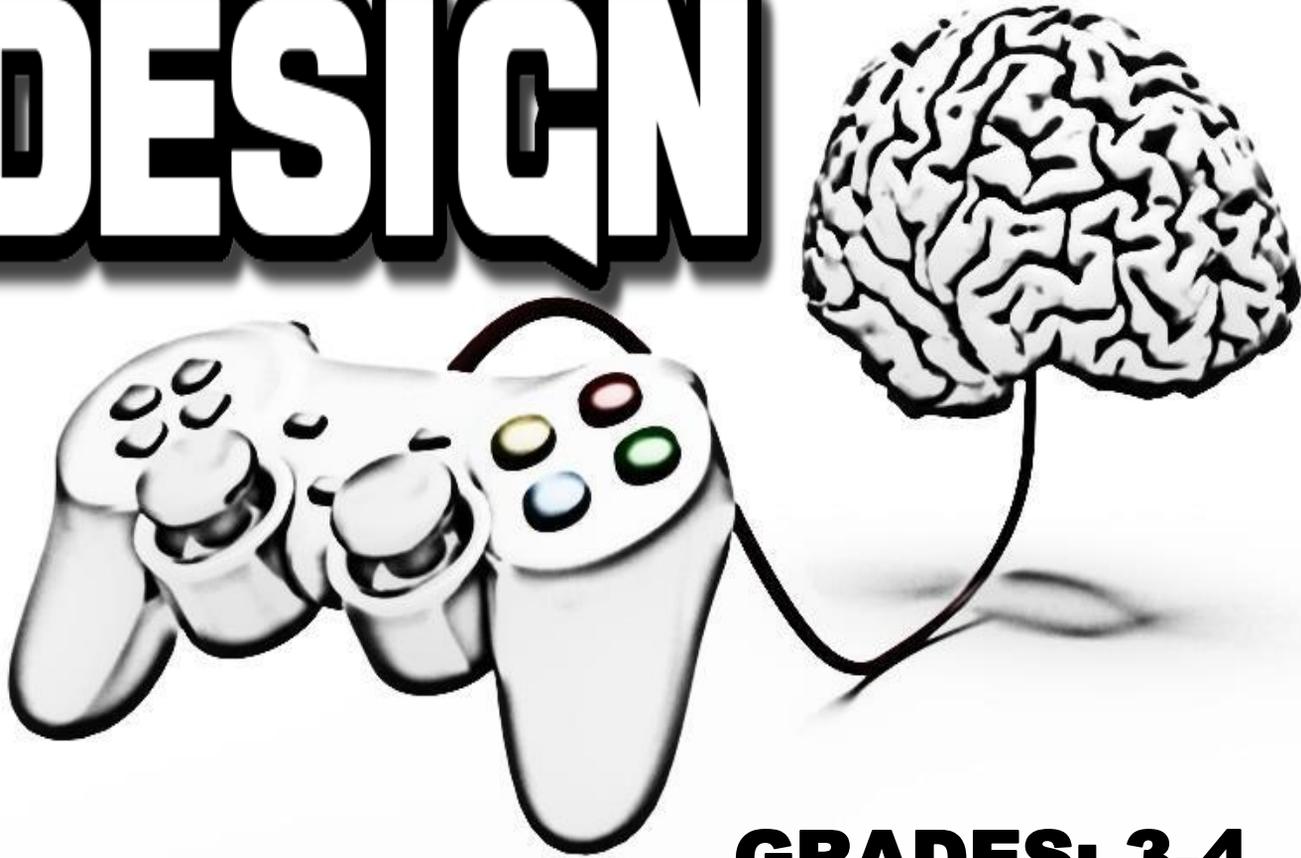


Name:

VIDEO GAME DESIGN



GRADES: 3-4

- I determine two or more **main ideas** of a text and explain how they are supported by key details.
- I determine the **meaning of words** and phrases in a text.
- I explain the **relationships between ideas** based on specific information in the text.
- I identify the **text structure** of information.



Use this text to REVIEW: **Main Idea, Text Elements, and Word Meaning**

Nintendo: One of the Top Video Game Designing Companies

Nintendo started their business by selling playing cards in Japan, isn't that surprising? Let me tell you about the interesting history of Nintendo and some fun facts about the company that ranks #1 in the world for its console systems.

Nintendo started off producing playing cards. the name "Nintendo" means "Leave Luck to Heaven". Hiroshi Yamauchi took over the company. In 1953, Nintendo became the first company in Japan to produce playing cards; this allowed Nintendo to earn a lot of money and success and dominate the card market.

Fun Fact:

A survey in the early 90's showed that American children found Mario more recognizable than Mickey Mouse.

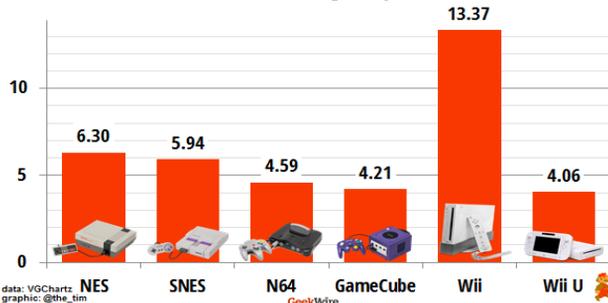


The headquarters of Nintendo, which is in Japan

People stopped playing with cards, and Nintendo was losing money fast. Nintendo had to find a new way to keep the company thriving. Nintendo decided to make electronic toys. Nintendo earned success! So, they hired Shigeru Miyamoto who created even more successful products for Nintendo and became a living legend in the world of gaming. By the 1980's, Miyamoto created Donkey Kong which became an instant success. In 1989, Nintendo released its first handheld gaming device, the Game Boy. Game Boy made it possible for video games to be more than something just for kids – even adults started to use it.

Nintendo has lasted 120 years and has been the only console maker to consistently release a system each decade. They continue to remain on top because they continue to create new ways to deliver classic games to a mass audience.

Nintendo Home Consoles: Sales per Year
(in millions, through May 2014)



Interesting facts about Nintendo!

- Nintendo owns the Seattle Mariners Baseball team. They were bought for \$76 million in 1989.
- 97.2 million Wii units have been sold. Stacked end to end they are 2,000 times higher than Mt. Everest.
- Over 534 million games have been sold between Mario, Pokémon, and Zelda.

TeachHeath.com





Text Elements

What is a text element? Give examples of some nonfiction text elements in your answer.

Nonfiction text elements help the reader understand the text by...

There are **10 text elements** in the article: *Nintendo: One of the Top Video Game Designing Companies*. Identify 5-10 of them.

Choose **3 text elements** that you identified in this article. For each one, explain what it is and **HOW** it helps the reader understand **THIS** text.



Main Idea

What is a main idea?

How do main ideas and key supporting details relate to each other?

A successful text has a main idea:

What is the **MAIN IDEA** of the article: *Nintendo: One of the Top Video Game Designing Companies*.
Give key supporting details in your answer.

Some texts have several main ideas in one article:

What is the **MAIN IDEA** of paragraph 3?

What is the **MAIN IDEA** of paragraph 2?



Word Meaning

The reader can understand and figure out the meanings of unknown words by using the text surrounding the unknown word. Sometimes these text 'clues' can help the reader determine the definition of the unknown word.

For example: Notable **means** great **because the text says** that they survive and it's for a million years. That makes me think that they are great at surviving.

The clue may be in the sentence itself:

Nintendo (founded by Fusajiro Yamauchi in 1889) started off producing playing cards.

producing means _____ because the text says _____

The clue may be in the paragraph:

People stopped playing with cards, and Nintendo was losing money fast. Nintendo had to find a new way to keep the company thriving.

thriving means _____ because the text says _____

The clue may be in the 'topic' of the text:

Let me tell you about the interesting history of Nintendo and some fun facts about the company that ranks #1 in the world for its console systems.

Console systems means _____ because the text says _____

1. A great strategy to use is to pretend that the unknown word is a blank.
2. Then, place a word that you think best fits in that blank.
3. Re-read the sentence with YOUR word in it and think to yourself: "Does that make sense?"

living legend means _____ because the text says

device means _____ because the text says

dominate means _____ because the text says

_____ means _____ because the text says



Designing YOUR Video Game

How do you conceptualize a video game?

First things first, think about what you're doing before you go full-steam ahead with your game. Visualize the kind of game you want to make, but make sure it is something that you can do as a beginner game designer. Sometimes the process can run in the tens of thousands of dollars and require hundreds of hours of work. Remember you can always expand later and change things later.

- Know the type of game you want to make.
- Know the budget.
- Know the length.
- Know the basic plot.
- Know your skill level.

Create a Plan:

Outlining a plan for your video game will prevent you from encountering issues later on.

How do you choose the appropriate software?

You probably don't want to start from scratch. You need to choose the right game-making software that suits your level in order to get the job done. There are plenty of free and premium programs to choose from, and each type has its own set of merits and tools for creating a video game of your own design.

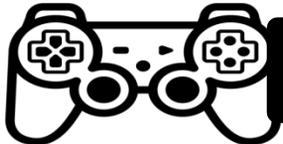
What steps are needed to build characters and environments?



Video games are built around exciting characters and interactive environments. Each game is designed a specific way for a specific purpose, giving each of them an easily distinguishable look and feel that makes them all stand out from the rest. There are multiple ways to go about creating memorable characters and environments, but we recommend sketching out your ideas as drawings and notes first.

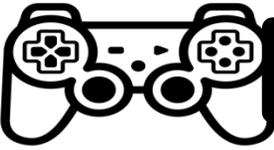
What needs to be accomplished before my game is complete?

Play your game and test it to work out all of the errors and issues. Then, once you feel you're game is ready for the market, publish it. Share your creation with others and continue to build upon your success (or failure).



Word Meaning

_____ means _____ because the text says



Text EVIDENCE

Can you PROVE these claims using texts? Some of these claims listed below can NOT be supported by the text (the claims are simply an opinion about the topic). Some of these claims CAN be supported by the text. Write “YES” or “NO” if it can be proven – then, find the text that proves it.



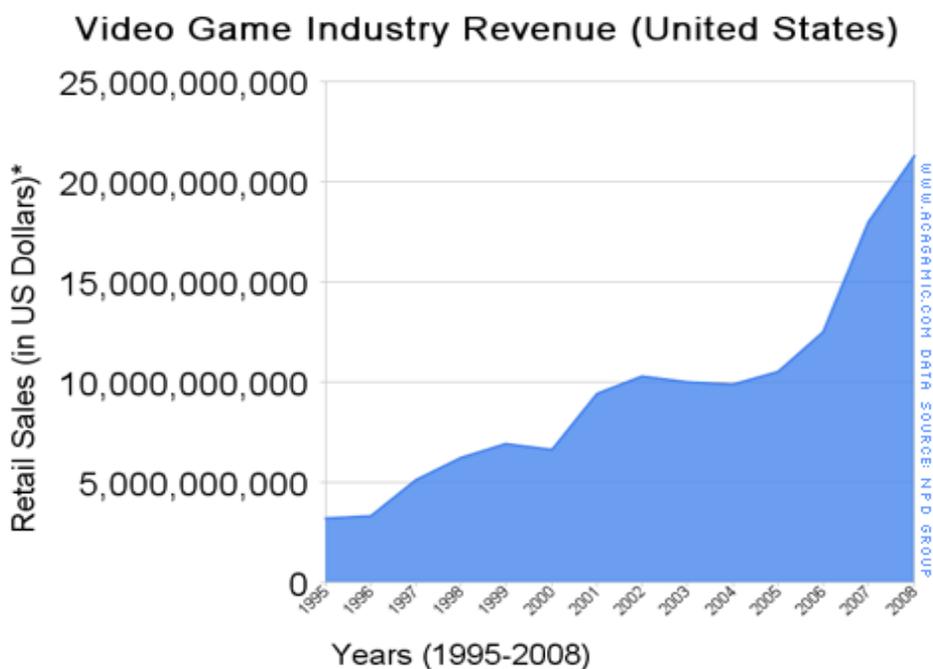
Claim	Can it be proven with text?	Supporting Text
Planning your video game is the best way to get started.		
Playing video games makes you a better designer.		
Playing your video game can help you find problems with it.		
Designing your own video game can be expensive.		
Creating a video game can be quick and easy.		



Video Game vs Board Game

Playing games is an great way to diminish stress and have fun with our loved ones: whether it's board games or video games.

Board games have been around since ancient times and have even been a huge part our history. Just take a look at games like Chess or Backgammon, which have been played by kings. Games have even decided entire wars during history. Board games can bring about more social behaviors in us – we talk more, laugh more, and hold more discussions.



However, recently, video games have taken more of the forefront of gaming entertainment. Video games are more interesting and seem to give us more options in how we play. Video games can also sync up with movies, tv, internet, sports, and more. There's a wider variety of types of video games out there, so people can easily find anything that matches his/her interests. Most avid video gamers are also enthusiastic board game lovers. Board games are still going strong, with new board games appearing almost every month. Most board gamers are still playing them with their friends or families on the weekends.

There is no real competition between board games and video games. Both entertainment mediums have their advantages and in the end, it's just a matter of preference. And the best thing is, you don't even have to choose. Just play both.



Word Meaning

What is the meaning of the word diminish? Use text evidence to support your answer.

What text best gives the reader an idea of what the word options means?

According to the information presented in the text, what is the definition of the word mediums?

_____ means _____ because the text says

_____ means _____ because the text says



Use this text to REVIEW: **Main Idea and Word Meaning**

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Search Degrees, Careers, or Schools

Glossary of Career Education Programs / Computer Sciences / How to Become a Video Game Designer...

How to Become a Video Game Designer: Education and Career Roadmap

Show Me Schools

Learn how to become a video game designer. Research the education requirements, training information and experience required for starting a career in video game design.

[View 10 Popular Schools >](#)

Becoming a Video Game Designer

Start with a Degree

If you are interested in becoming a video game designer, there are several paths to take. You can receive a bachelor's degree or higher in any of the following subjects: games and interactive entertainment, game design, game development, game design and development, game programming or computer science, software development, software engineering, computer systems, animation, or mathematics. Employers also want a minimum of two years' experience in an internship.



Duties of a Video Game Designer

Video game design is one of the most exciting and competitive careers in the world. For people with a passion for technology and interactive entertainment, video game design is a dream job. Even people with a slight interest in video games would jump at the opportunity to become a video game designer. Video game designers use a combination of technology, science, engineering,

mathematics, design, art, and animation skills to create realistic action packed video games. These skilled employees must also know a high level of mathematics (especially geometry). Other skills that come with these types of jobs are perseverance, teamwork skills, time management, and organizational skills.

Perfect School Search

What is your highest level of education?

Select your education level

What subject are you interested in?

Computer Sciences

Computer Programming

Computer Games and Programming Skills

Where do you want to attend class?

Show me all schools

Video Game Designer Job Opportunities

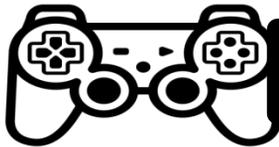
Video game designers perform a number of tasks as a part of the design process. They design storylines, characters, and gameplay prototypes. Video game designers collaborate with artists to create the visual style for games. While most video game designers work in gaming studios, some work at advertising and design companies, multimedia companies, or technology companies.



Main Idea

What is the main idea of this entire passage? Be sure to support your answer with key details from the article.

Identify two main ideas in this article. Provide one key detail for each main idea.



Word Meaning

The meaning of the word development is _____ because the text says

The meaning of the word minimum is _____ because the text says

The definition of the word competitive is _____ because the text says



Word Meaning

Part A: Based on the context clues in the sentence, what does slight most likely mean?

Part B: Which group of words from the sentence gives the best clue to your answer in part A?

Part A: Based on the context clues in the sentence, what can the reader infer that perform most likely means?

Part B: Which text best provides support for your answer in part A?

What text best gives the reader an idea of what the word multimedia means?

According to the information presented in the text, what is the definition of the word collaborate?



Text EVIDENCE

Can you PROVE these claims using texts? Some of these claims listed below can NOT be supported by the text (the claims are simply an opinion about the topic). Some of these claims CAN be supported by the text. Write “YES” or “NO” if it can be proven – then, find the text that proves it.



Claim	Can it be proven with text?	Supporting Text
Video game designers have a difficult job.		
Video game designers have the best job in the world.		
Not many people are good at designing video games.		
Video game designers are talented artists.		
Video game designers spend a lot of time playing games.		
All video game designers are good at art.		
Video game designers are mathematicians.		



Miyamoto: *An article interview from Time for Kids*

March 19, 2013 By TFK Kid Reporter Yusuf Halabi

TFK: What inspired you to become a video game engineer?

MIYAMOTO: Actually, I am not an engineer. I started off as an artist drawing with brushes and things like that. When I was younger, I used to draw comics. I wasn't very suited to working in digital media so I went to school and studied industrial design. After I went to school, I was able to join Nintendo and was hoping to help create fun and thought-provoking toys. I helped out with the video games by drawing the artwork and characters of the games. I quickly realized that drawing for video games was a lot like creating comics and toys. Even though I wasn't initially interested in digital art, I decided to study and learn more about it so that I could create things in video games.



TFK: What would you say to children who are interested in video game design?

MIYAMOTO: Today, a single video game is typically created by teams of 50-100 people. Even though there are many people working on the video game, there is typically one person that is overseeing the project. For kids who are engrossed in creating video games, obviously you need to be able to play video games; however, what's even more important is to have many other experiences outside of video games so you can imagine different prospects in the games you are creating. Things like playing sports or communicating with friends, talking to them and sharing ideas are all important activities that will help you become a great video game designer. So, my advice is to go out and experience lots of diverse things.



TFK: What was the inspiration behind the first *Super Mario Bros.* game?

MIYAMOTO: After we created *Donkey Kong* where Mario was very small, we wanted to create a game with a bigger character that you could move around. The drawback was that if you had a bigger character, there was less space to move around. So we made Mario bigger and had him running across the screen, which turned out to be fun. However, we made Mario smaller so that the space in the game seemed bigger. We enjoyed the big and small Mario so we thought it would be more fun if Mario could change sizes during the game and that is when we introduced the super mushroom to allow Mario to change size. That is how Mario became Super Mario.



Word Meaning

Part A: Based on the context clues in the sentence, what does suited most likely mean?

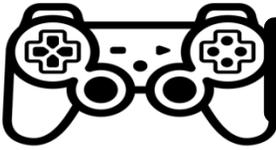
Part B: Which group of words from the sentence gives the best clue to your answer in part A?

Part A: Based on the context clues in the sentence, what can the reader infer that overseeing most likely means?

Part B: Which text best provides support for your answer in part A?

What text best gives the reader an idea of what the word prospects means?

According to the information presented in the text, what is the definition of the word diverse?



Word Meaning

Part A: Based on the context clues in the sentence, what does thought-provoking most likely mean?

Part B: Which group of words from the sentence gives the best clue to your answer in part A?

Part A: Based on the context clues in the sentence, what can the reader infer that drawback most likely means?

Part B: Which text best provides support for your answer in part A?

What text best gives the reader an idea of what the word unearthing means?

According to the information presented in the text, what is the definition of the word patents?



Texts Relationships

How does this text (Miyamoto) relate to the information provided in the text “Becoming a Video Game Designer”?

How does this text (Miyamoto) relate to the information provided in the text “Nintendo”?

How does this text (Miyamoto) relate to the text “Video Game Designer”?

How does reading this text (Miyamoto) help you better understand the topic of what a video game designer is?



Text Structure/Organization

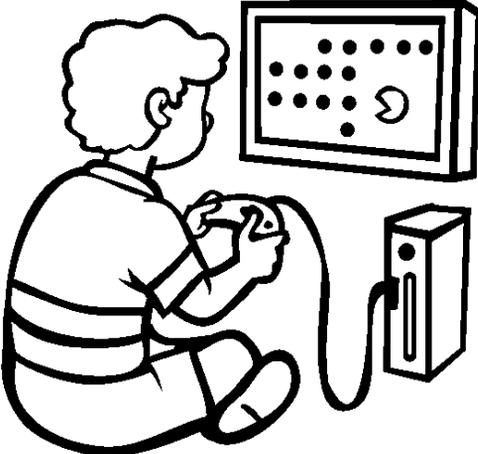
The author has different choices in how to present a topic. The author could decide to organize the information in different ways so that the reader can best understand the text. The text structure (or organization) can really improve the readability and comprehension of the text.

Chronology (in order of sequence):

Problem and Solution (ask a question, answer it):

Cause and Effect (event and then the result)

Comparison (compare two or more things):



Text Structure Organization

- *How does the author organize the text?*
- *How does the structure of the text help the reader understand the topic?*

You can tell that the text "Nintendo" is structured _____ because...

You can tell that the text "Designing YOUR Video Game" is structured _____ because...

You can tell that the text "Becoming a Video Game Designer" is structured _____ because...

You can tell that the text "Video Game vs Board Game" is structured _____ because...

You can tell that the text "Miyamoto" is structured _____ because...

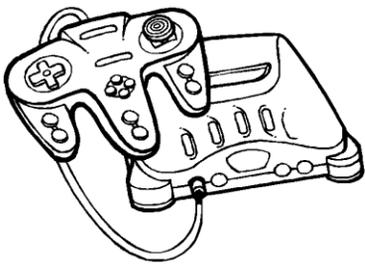
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Which text structure do you (as a reader) feel is the most successful? Why?

Which text (out of all five) do you think would be better if the text structure was another type?

What text structure would you change it to?

Why?



Texts Relationships

Use all FIVE texts to answer these questions.

Choose two texts. Discuss how the information presented in the text relate to each other.

You have read 5 texts around the topic of video games. Which text doesn't seem to relate as much to the other texts? Use text evidence to support your answer.

Which two texts do you think relate to each other the MOST? Why?

Which two texts do you think are the most similar in structure? Why?

Out of the 5 texts you've read, which do you find the most easy to read? Why?



INFORMATIONAL WRITING

Your Writing Assignment

You read about, watched videos, and had discussions that taught you facts about video game designers. Write an informational essay explaining what a video game designer is and what a video game designer does. Include details from the videos and multiple texts to support your ideas.

Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- **Plan your essay**
- **Write your essay**
- **Revise and edit for a final draft**

How your essay and presentation will be scored:

- 1. Statement of Purpose/Focus**—how well you clearly state and maintain your controlling idea or main idea
- 2. Organization** – how well the ideas progress from the introduction to the conclusion using effective transitions and how well you stay on topic throughout the essay
- 3. Elaboration of Evidence** – how well you provide evidence from sources about your topic and elaborate with specific information
- 4. Language and Vocabulary** – how well you effectively express ideas using precise language that is appropriate for your audience and purpose
- 5. Conventions** – how well you follow the rules of usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.