

- 請注意：中文文字内容只提供簡體版

Vocabulary: gaming 词汇：电子游戏

There's no doubt that in today's digital world, computer games are extremely **sophisticated** and capable of creating **virtual reality** experiences that were **unimaginable** only a few years ago. So I am interested to see that the **simplistic** games that I grew up with, are making a revival. But why?

In the 1970s, the original place to play a computer game was at an **arcade**. Here, you and your mates could try out the new big names in games such as Space Invaders and Pacman. It was the only affordable way to play them and because of the technology involved, the gaming machines were too big to fit in to your house.

But in the 1980s and 90s, gaming arrived in our homes and people like me were addicted. The sound of beeping became a familiar sound emanating from bedrooms across the land! Names such as Tetris, Sonic and Street Fighter became popular language in the playground – and now they are being talked about – and played – again. One of the reasons is the low cost. The BBC spoke to gamer, Gemma Wood, who says that: "Newer **consoles** and their games are incredibly expensive. I understand that a lot of hard work has gone into the design etc, but how can anyone justify £50 to £60 for a game that you might not even enjoy?"

Simplicity might be another reason. The **graphics** on old games may not compare with the detail and **definition** of modern games but they are fun and easy to use by children and adults alike. And of course, **nostalgia** plays its part. Some people want to relive their childhood while for others, it is a chance to show their children the computer games they grew up with.

Technology journalist, KG Orphanides, says we should have **admiration** for this old technology. He says "it's important to recognise how well-designed many of those **classic** games are... the developers had so little space to work with – your average Sega Mega Drive or SNES **cartridge** had a maximum capacity of just 4MB – and limited graphics and sound **capabilities**." This compares to an average capacity of 40G in today's games.

This craze for using retro **hardware** and grabbing an old **joystick** is certainly catching on. And to persuade those of us who are not sure about **downgrading** the gaming experience, manufacturers such as Nintendo, are bringing back some of their older consoles in new style casing. So it seems like it's not 'game over' for **old-school** technology!

词汇表

sophisticated	精密复杂的
virtual reality	虚拟现实
unimaginable	难以想象的
simplistic	过分简单化的
arcade	游乐中心
console	(游戏) 主机, 控制台
graphics	图像
definition	清晰度
nostalgia	怀旧, 对往事的怀念
admiration	钦佩
classic	经典的, 有代表性的
cartridge	游戏卡
capability	能力, 力量
hardware	硬件
joystick	操纵杆
downgrade	降低
old-school	旧时的

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Why did people originally play computer games in an arcade?
2. What do the graphics on modern games have that old games did not?
3. Which words used in the article means 'coming from a particular place'?
4. Why are some manufacturers bringing back old games in new style casing?
5. True or false: *Developers of the old games only had small offices to work in.*

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I spent all my money at the _____ so I didn't have any left for the bus fare home.

graphics	consoles	arcade	old school
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2. The airline has been showing off its new inflight entertainment system with wireless headphones, voice control and 4K high _____ screens.

defining	definition	defined	definite
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3. The new high-speed train has the _____ to reach speeds of over 200 miles per hour.

admiration	graphics	capability	joystick
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4. The party was great because the DJ played lots of _____ favourites!

old-school	out of school	old boy	old class
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5. Campaigners are claiming the _____ of hospital services is putting more lives at risk.

capabilities	simplistic	nostalgia	downgrading
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Why did people originally play computer games in an arcade?
It was the only affordable way to play them and because of the technology involved, the gaming machines were too big to fit in your home.
2. What do the graphics on modern games have that old games did not?
Modern games have graphics detail and definition.
3. Which words used in the article means 'coming from a particular place'?
Emanating
4. Why are some manufacturers bringing back old games in new style casing?
To persuade those unsure about using older games, to give them a try.
5. True or false: *Developers of the old games only had small offices to work in.*
False. We don't know about the size of their office but we know that developers had so little processing and storage space to work with – a maximum of 4MB on some games.

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I spent all my money at the **arcade** so I didn't have any left for the bus fare home.
2. The airline has been showing off its new inflight entertainment system with wireless headphones, voice control and 4K high **definition** screens.
3. The new high-speed train has the **capability** to reach speeds of over 200 miles per hour.
4. The party was great because the DJ played lots of **old-school** favourites!
5. Campaigners are claiming the **downgrading** of hospital services is putting more lives at risk.