

Are board games the ‘new’ video games? ***

Tabletop generals

60 minutes
individual work

Introduction

Video gaming has been around for a few decades now. Once seen as the death knell for tabletop board games, they are fierce competitors in the entertainment market. While video games gross huge amounts of profit, a resurgence of board games is giving the online gaming industry a run for its money.



The *purpose* of this web task is to take a look at a video review of a number of board games and think about how they compare to video games in the digital era. The *theme* of the web task is the (unlikely) resurgence of board games. The *final task* is to write an opinion about board games versus online gaming.

Exploration

A

Write down the answers to the following questions. Then compare your answers with a classmate.

1	If you can, name 5 video games you know. If you know 5 board games, list them here as well. How would you describe yourself? A video gamer? A board gamer? Both? Neither? Any favourite games? If you're a player, how much time do you average a week playing? Does it involve others or just yourself?
2	Skim and scan the 'tabletoptribe' article: https://www.tabletoptribe.com/why-board-games-are-the-new-video-games/ <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What video game is listed as the first one people got addicted to?• Why are board games resurging?• Name 4 of the celebrities listed that are into playing board games.• What is said about Generation X and Millennials?• What advantage(s) do board games have over video games, according to the author of this article?
3	Having skimmed the article, what is your opinion on 'video games versus board games'?

B

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kwGgj76YE3c>

<https://www.pubmeeple.com/introducing-board-game-ranking-engine/>

Answer the following questions individually. Write down your answers.

1	Name the four board games James Hudson reviews in his YouTube video. Do you know any of them?
2	If you had to choose a favourite, which one would it be? Why?
3	Using the Pub Meeple Board Game Ranking Engine, look up the games Hudson reviews in his video. Write down their rankings.

Final Task

<https://www.debate.org/opinions/are-board-games-better-than-electronic-games>

Your final task is to voice your opinion about the topic ‘Are board games better than electronic games?’

Using the link above, read some of the opinions on the topic. As you can see, there’s almost a 50/50 split on the issue. Many of the submissions are poorly written (from a writer’s point of view). You can do better!

In your writing (approximately 175 words), make sure you mention at least two games as examples to support your opinion.

Structure your opinion as follows:

- Brief **introduction**, in which you state your opinion. Make sure there is a clear thesis statement, such as *Board games were thought of as extinct after the rise of video games, but the tide seems to have turned.*
- **Body** text, in which you can write about **pros and cons** of video games and board games (i.e., you’re comparing them).
- **Conclusion**, in which you restate what you wrote in the beginning. You are drawing the conclusion based on what you wrote in the body paragraph(s).