

## Vocabulary: Entertainment and leisure

- 1 1.46 Match the activities with the pictures. Then listen and check.

- 1 ☐ play video games
- 2 ☐ watch YouTube or Netflix
- 3 ☐ hang out with friends
- 4 ☐ go out on my hoverboard
- 5 ☐ go to a music festival
- 6 ☐ listen to music
- 7 ☐ watch a theatre show
- 8 ☐ go to the cinema



- 2 **Pairwork** Which of these activities do you like doing? Talk to your partner about how often you do them.

*I like playing video games. I usually play after lunch.*

# VIDEO-G MILLIONAIRES

The first commercial video games appeared in the early 1970s. In the 1980s there were the first reports of video game **addiction**. Nowadays, teenagers spend hours playing video games. Some of them are also becoming millionaires by making video games, something that only a few years ago just wasn't possible.

We often hear the negative stories of the video gaming phenomenon: it isn't healthy; kids spend too much time in front of a screen; it can have negative effects on their school work and social life; there is too much violence and kids can become aggressive. But there are positive aspects, too.

Alex Balfanz is 18 years old. He is a student at Duke University and he is a normal teenager. He studies hard and plays video games. But he doesn't just play them. Alex makes video games and he is making a

- 3 1.47 Read and listen to the text. Does it talk positively or negatively about video-gaming?

- 4 Read the text again and decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 There weren't video games before 1980. \_\_\_\_
- 2 Teenagers are becoming rich by selling their video game ideas. \_\_\_\_
- 3 Some teenagers are angry and aggressive because they spend too much time playing video games. \_\_\_\_
- 4 *Jailbreak* only became a success a few weeks ago. \_\_\_\_
- 5 Alex Balfanz works at university. \_\_\_\_
- 6 It was possible to earn money by making video games when Alex Balfanz was a child. \_\_\_\_



# AMING

lot of money. His adventure game, *Jailbreak*, was an immediate success. He earned a **seven-figure salary** and a few weeks ago a kid played the game for the billionth time!

Opportunities like this were just a dream. Was this possible just five or seven years ago? No, it wasn't. But now, thanks to online sales platforms, anyone with a good idea can be successful.

Another way of making money is simply by playing video games. Ten years ago, the professional video game player didn't exist but now it is a sport attracting 600 million viewers. Even the International Olympics Committee is thinking about adding it to their events list. So, perhaps video-gaming does have its positive side too!

**addiction** dipendenza  
**seven-figure salary**  
stipendio a sette cifre



## Grammar: was, were

His game **was** an immediate success.  
A few years ago it **wasn't** possible.  
Opportunities like this **were** a dream.  
**Was** this possible five or ten years ago?

Grammar Bank pp. 294-295

## 5 Rewrite these sentences using was and were.

- She's at school today.  
\_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.
- My parents are in Spain now.  
\_\_\_\_\_ in 1998.
- I'm not afraid of flying.  
\_\_\_\_\_ when I \_\_\_\_\_ a child.
- Are you at the cinema?  
\_\_\_\_\_ last week?
- There aren't any yellow taxis in London.  
\_\_\_\_\_ when we \_\_\_\_\_ kids.

## Grammar: Past simple – regular verbs

### VIDEO MAP

The first video games **appeared** in the 1970s.  
A few weeks ago a kid **played** the game.

To form the Past simple we add **-ed** to the base form of regular verbs.

Grammar Bank pp. 294-295

## 6 Complete these sentences using the Past simple of the verbs from the box.

create • start • enjoy • work • walk • live

- Martin \_\_\_\_\_ in a bar in Barcelona last summer.
- Mark Zuckerberg \_\_\_\_\_ Facebook when he was at college.
- Elena \_\_\_\_\_ in Milan in 2010.
- The concert \_\_\_\_\_ at 8 p.m.
- Tanya and Karen \_\_\_\_\_ for 5 kilometres two days ago.
- We really \_\_\_\_\_ the film yesterday evening.

## Speaking

## 7 Make sentences which are true for you using the verbs in the Past simple and the expressions from the word pools.

*Last week I started a new puzzle.*

create - start  
enjoy - work  
finish - live

last week  
yesterday - last year  
five years ago