

Reading Comprehension – Building a Dream in the Digital World

When Leo was a teenager, he was fascinated by computers and video games. He spent countless hours experimenting with coding platforms and watching online tutorials about game design. While his friends were playing the latest releases, Leo was trying to understand how the games actually worked.

After finishing his degree in computer engineering, he joined a large software company. The job was stable, and he was earning a decent salary, but something was missing. One evening, while he was debugging a complex program, he realized that he wanted to create something of his own — something that reflected his creativity and passion for gaming.

Over the next year, Leo was developing his first independent project. Every night, while he was coding or designing characters, he listened to electronic music to stay focused. Sometimes, when he was testing a new level, the program crashed and he had to start again from zero — but he never gave up.

Finally, in 2018, he launched his first game, Space Runner. At the beginning, only a handful of people downloaded it, but one weekend, while Leo was checking social media, he discovered that a famous streamer was broadcasting a live session playing his game. Within hours, Space Runner went viral. Thousands of new players were downloading it, and soon, Leo's inbox was full of messages from people who wanted to collaborate.

Now, PixelStorm Studios has a small but talented team working on new projects. Leo says that creating his first game taught him more about persistence and innovation than any course or company ever could.

Comprehension Questions

1. What was Leo interested in when he was a teenager?
2. Why did he decide to leave his stable job?
3. What was he doing during the year he developed his first game?
4. What problems did he face while he was creating Space Runner?
5. How did Space Runner become popular?
6. What has Leo learned from his experience?

Grammar Focus

Find five verbs in the past simple and five verbs in the past continuous from the text and write them below.

Past Simple verbs:

1. 1. _____
2. 2. _____
3. 3. _____
4. 4. _____
5. 5. _____

Past Continuous verbs:

6. 1. _____
7. 2. _____
8. 3. _____
9. 4. _____
10. 5. _____

Vocabulary Challenge

Match the words with their definitions:

1. debugging

2. launch

3. streamer

4. go viral

5. persistence

a. A person who broadcasts live content online.

b. To remove errors or bugs from a computer program.

c. To publish or release a product officially.

d. To become extremely popular very quickly online.

e. The ability to keep trying even when things are difficult.