



# BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

[Virtual Worlds](#)



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## Virtual Worlds 虚拟世界

### Want to Buy an Island? 想买一个岛屿吗?

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

The line between the real world and online 'virtual worlds' is becoming increasingly **blurred** with gamers spending real money to buy **virtual commodities** and even **real estate** in digital worlds.

Welcome to the world of **MMOGs**, Massive Multiplayer Online Games. For those who don't know, an MMOG is a computer game which thousands of people can play simultaneously on the internet, **interacting** or competing with each other. Some of the most well-known MMOGs include Second Life, World of Warcraft and Legend of Mir II.

Whilst many of these kinds of games involve **role-playing** and **fulfilling tasks**, others simply offer an **alternative universe** where players can **socialise**, earn money and **trade** with each other.

In recent years 'social' MMOGs like Second Life and Project Entropia have invited gamers to spend real money inside the game. And whilst many people might find this strange, some online gamers have used their **virtual investments** to **make a profit**.

A 23-year-old Australian gamer, known as Deathifier paid around £14,000 for an island in the game Project Entropia in 2004 and within a year had **recouped his investment** by selling land to other gamers to build virtual homes on. The young **entrepreneur** is highly confident that his **digital assets** will continue to be profitable.

"The money made to date is only a taste of what can be achieved with my virtual island purchase," said Deathifier, "There is still more room for growth and **revenue** with the **untapped resources** surrounding the land."

Here at the BBC we are never slow to **embrace new technology**, and have rented a virtual tropical island within the game Second Life. The BBC's island has been used **to stage** online music festivals and **showcase** new musical talent. It is hoped that it will also bring gamers closer to their favourite artists.

BBC interactive editor, Daniel Heaf, said, "There may be opportunities to have people like Justin Timberlake on spaces like this – that will allow a level of interaction with the audience that we have never tried before."



## Glossary 词汇表

<b>blurred</b> – 模糊的	<b>virtual commodities</b> - 虚拟商品
<b>real estate</b> – 房地产	<b>MMOGs</b> – 大型多人在线游戏
<b>interacting</b> – 互动	<b>role-playing</b> – 扮演角色
<b>fulfilling tasks</b> – 完成任务	<b>alternative universe</b> – 另类宇宙
<b>socialise</b> – 社交	<b>trade</b> – 贸易
<b>virtual investments</b> - 虚拟投资	<b>make a profit</b> – 赚钱, 获利
<b>recouped his investment</b> – 赚回投资	<b>entrepreneur</b> - 创业者
<b>digital assets</b> – 数字资产	<b>revenue</b> – 收入
<b>untapped resources</b> – 未开发的资源	<b>embrace new technology</b> – 接受新技术
<b>to stage</b> - 举办	<b>showcase</b> – 展示

### 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. You can buy real land in a virtual game. **True / False**
2. Many thousands of people can play MMOGs at the same time.  
**True / False**
3. Some games are about conflict but others are about participating in a virtual society. **True / False**
4. It is possible to earn real money in virtual games. **True / False**
5. The BBC has bought a virtual island in the game Second Life. **True / False**

## 2. Computer Verbs 与计算机有关的动词

Look at the computer verbs below. Can you match them to their definitions?

请为下列动词找出正确的定义.

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 1. to log on  | a. to replace hardware or software with a more up to date version |
| 2. to crash   | b. to gain access to a computer system                            |
| 3. to reboot  | c. to stop functioning  |
| 4. to upgrade | d. to restart a computer  |

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the computer verbs.

从上列动词中为下列句子选出正确答案.

1. You are running an older version of Windows operating system. Why don't you \_\_\_\_\_ to the latest version?
2. You need to enter your password to be able to \_\_\_\_\_ to the network
3. I hate this computer it always \_\_\_\_\_ when I try to play this game.
4. Once you have installed the software you will need to \_\_\_\_\_ the computer for the changes to take effect.

### 3. Anagrams 组词填空

**Solve the anagrams and then complete the sentences with the correct words.**

重新排列组合次序混乱的词语，然后把正确词语填空造句。

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. ivrutal  | 4. liigtda  |
| 2. ionnle   | 5. ododalnw |
| 3. sapsrowd | 6. wkrneot  |

1. MMOG games allow players to interact in \_\_\_\_\_ worlds.
2. Why don't you go \_\_\_\_\_ on and have a look at the Learning English website?
3. You need to enter your \_\_\_\_\_ in order to be able to see your emails.
4. Computers handle information in \_\_\_\_\_ form.
5. I \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of music in MP3 format from the internet.
6. The internet is a global computer \_\_\_\_\_ that is open for anybody to access.

#### 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with computers and the internet in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (→), vertically (↓) or diagonally (↘)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与计算机和互联网有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(→) 垂直的(↓) 或对角的(↘)形式出现。

n	e	t	w	o	r	k	a	l	n	d	o
a	d	b	t	h	k	l	u	o	n	o	z
t	e	f	h	d	u	y	n	g	r	w	e
e	h	o	k	e	i	s	h	o	l	n	e
c	v	n	n	m	u	g	a	n	e	l	t
h	i	h	y	l	a	e	i	n	r	o	p
n	r	c	f	b	i	e	h	t	q	a	k
o	t	s	r	w	e	n	a	t	a	d	y
l	u	b	o	a	l	l	e	o	c	l	k
o	a	s	w	e	s	t	f	a	s	s	y
g	l	p	h	r	a	h	f	g	a	m	e
y	s	p	a	s	s	w	o	r	d	e	r

network	log on	password	virtual	digital
technology	online	game	crash	download

## Answers 答案

### 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

- You can buy real land in a virtual game. **False**
- Many thousands of people can play MMOGs at the same time. **True**
- Some games are about conflict but others are about participating in a virtual society. **True**
- It is possible to earn real money in virtual games. **True**
- The BBC has bought a virtual island in the game Second Life **False**

### 3. Anagrams 组词填空

Solve the anagrams and then complete the sentences with the correct words.

重新排列组合次序混乱的词语, 然后把正确词语填空造句

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. virtual  | 4. digital  |
| 2. online   | 5. download |
| 3. password | 6. network  |
- MMOG games allow players to interact in **virtual** worlds.
  - Why don't you go **online** and have a look at the Learning English website?
  - You need to enter your **password** in order to be able to see your emails.
  - Computers handle information in **digital** form.
  - I **download** a lot of music in MP3 format from the internet.
  - The internet is a global computer **network** that is open for anybody to access.

### 2. Computer Verbs

Look at the computer verbs below. Can you match them to their definitions?

- b
- c
- d
- a

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the computer verbs.

- You are running an older version of Windows operating system. Why don't you **upgrade** to the latest version?
- You need to enter your password to be able to **log on** to the network.
- I hate this computer it always **crashes** when I try to play this game.
- Once you have installed the software you will need to **reboot** the computer for the changes to take effect.

### 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

n	e	t	w	o	r	k		l		d	
								o		o	
t				d				g		w	
e		o			i			o		n	
c	v		n			g		n		l	
h	i			l			i			o	
n	r	c			i			t		a	
o	t		r			n			a	d	
l	u			a			e			l	
o	a				s						
g	l					h		g	a	m	e
y		p	a	s	s	w	o	r	d		