**Reading and Writing for Assessment**

**Understanding** Controlling Sentences

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| Student: |  | Date: |  |

**Find controlling sentences.**

In the following brief article, underline each controlling sentence.

**The Game’s the Thing!**

By Sara Chang

In the past, school work and games lived in two different worlds. Now, teachers use games to help students learn. Many features of games make them powerful tools for learning.

To start with, games are fun, and fun actually promotes learning. When students enjoy an activity, they naturally learn it faster than if they dislike it. Fun also causes students to repeat the activity many times, a key to learning. People quickly become experts at their hobbies not because they “study” but because they have fun.

Games often require players to learn concepts and skills. Before playing a game, students need to learn the rules. As they play the game, students discover strategies that can help them win. If games simulate situations in history or science, students learn about these subjects at the same time.

Games get students to work together in competition and cooperation. Learning is social. When you discover something new, you want to share with others. In games, learning and sharing go hand in hand. Students have to work with and against others.

Adults use games all the time for training. People use flight simulators to train to be pilots or astronauts. Salespeople role-play interactions with customers to learn how to provide the best service. Police and rescue professionals stage disaster simulations to learn how better to respond. Games provide a safe, inexpensive way to learn from situations that are too dangerous or expensive in real life.

What games do you enjoy? Which ones have you mastered? What did you learn in the process? Next time you choose a game, think not just about the fun you’ll have, but also about what you will learn!

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