

### KEYSTAGE 3

The following review from a gaming magazine tells readers the pros and cons of an Xbox game call Amped.

#### **AMPED : FREESTYLE SNOWBOARDING**

You'll smash your legs, crack your skull  
and the come back for more. This is  
gaming addiction in its purest form.

This is a new type of extreme sports  
Thrill. Amped is all about taming the (5)  
Mountain, pulling off perfect big air tricks  
And developing a career as a world-class  
Snowboarder. It's addictive, fun and looks  
Xboxing good too.

Your aim is simple enough - to become (10)  
The best freestyle snowboarder on the  
planet. You'll get there by wowing  
sponsors and the media and by chaining  
together incredible moves on rails, jumps,  
buildings and anything else you can see (15)

The controls are easy to master - three  
Buttons grab your board and the B button  
Grinds. The best tricks are big manoeuvres  
In which you swoosh your rider over an (20)  
Angled ramp or natural ledge and spin him  
Horizontally and vertically at once. Add a  
Beautiful landing and you'll bag points.

The pro challenges are particularly  
Good. Shadowing a pro rider and (25)  
Attempting to bear their scores actually  
Feels like learning to snowboard, both  
Directly and indirectly. Beating him adds a  
New trick to the repertoire. Better still,  
Observing the line he takes down the  
Course exposes new areas and teaches (30)  
You how to exploit ramps and grind rails  
To the max.

**AMPED'S ADDICTIVE, FUN  
AND LOOKS XBOXING  
GOOD TOO (35)**

Amped gets tongue-chewingly tricky  
About half way up the world rankings.  
While frustration inevitably creeps in at  
This point, progressing become a matter  
Of honour. Sadly, there's no other single (40)  
Player game and the multiplayer game  
Consists of up to four players taking  
Turns to out trick each other, which is a  
Very poor effort.

Despite the sticky moments, Amped (45)  
Successfully immerses you in a brilliantly  
Believable Career. You really feel you're  
Learning to ride each tricky mountain  
Curse and you're constantly rewarded  
With new levels, tricks, and kit along the (50)  
Way. It's a truly impressive game that will  
Please gamers of all flavours. In fact it's,  
Like, totally awesome.

**HELP - Types of questions**

The questions you are asked below focus on different types of reading skills.

- Questions 1 and 2 require you to select information from the text.
- Question 3 requires you to 'read between the lines'.
- Question 4 requires you to look at why the writer has structured and organised the text in a particular way.
- Question 5 requires you to investigate the writer's language choices.
- Question 6 requires you to look at the overall effect - how the writer's choices affect a reader's response.

## Questions

1. From paragraph 3, what do you have to do become the best snowboarder while playing Amped?
2. Find and list what the reviewer says are four of Amped's strengths and three of its weaknesses. Write your answers in a chart like the one below.

Strengths	Weaknesses
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	

3. What kind of audience is this review aimed at? How can you tell?
  - What kind of readers will this attract?
  - Why will it appeal to them particularly?
4. Compare the headings and the bold print. Which is most effective at grabbing readers' attention? Why?

? HELP Quoting evidence to support your answers

- When answering a question such as question 4, put yourself in the audience's shoes as you work out your answer. Give reasons for your decision.
- Refer to or quote from the text to prove that your view is sensible.

1. Read the second and third paragraphs again. How does the writer's choice of adjectives (describing words) help to build a positive picture of the game.
2. How does the writer try to convince readers that Amped is worth playing?

You should write about:

- how the writer has chosen language to suit the audience
- what information the writer gives about Amped
- how the writer describes playing Amped
- how and when the writer expresses his opinions.