Gaming

**Digital Games -**

**Earliest Game** - 1947, it consisted of an analog device that allowed a user to control a vector-drawn dot on the screen to simulate a missile being fired at targets, which were drawings fixed to the screen.

**First commercially sold, coin-operated video game** - 1971, Computer Space

**First Console** - Magnavox Odyssey, 1972

**Atari’s PONG** - First ever commercial HIT - Arcade version 1972, Home version 1975

**Platforms** - PC, Console, Handheld, Arcade, Web browser, Mobile, Virtual Reality, Blockchain (NEW)

**Types** - Casual, Serious, Educational

**Development Tools** - Unity, UnReal Engine, Godot Engine, GameMaker Studio

**Terminology -**

**DLC -** Downloadable Content - providing additional game content at a later date for additional money.

Eg. Rockstar Games with *Grand Theft Auto IV* (*The Lost and Damned* and *The Ballad of Gay Tony*), or Bethesda with *Fallout 3* and its expansions

**Expansion Packs -** Unlike DLC, expansion packs add a whole section to the game that either already exists in the game's code or is developed after the game is released. Expansions add new maps, missions, weapons, and other things that weren't previously accessible in the original game.

Eg. Bungie's *Destiny - Rise of Iron* Exp pack (added new weapons, new maps, and higher levels, and remade old missions), *Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag Freedom Cry*, which features a different character than the original game

**Modifications** - technically oriented consumers can modify the game. These mods can add an extra dimension of replayability and interest.

Devs - id Software, Valve Corporation, Crytek, Bethesda, Epic Games and Blizzard Entertainment ship their games with some of the development tools used to make the game, along with documentation to assist mod developers.

Eg. *Half-Life* mod *Counter-Strike*

**Cheating** - Cheating in computer games may involve cheat codes and hidden spots implemented by the game developers, modification of game code by third parties, or players exploiting a software glitch. Cheats usually make the game easier by providing some unfair advantage.

Eg. Cheats in GTA games

**Glitches** - Software errors not detected by software testers during development can find their way into released versions of computer and video games. This may happen because the glitch only occurs under unusual circumstances in the game, was deemed too minor to correct, or because the game development was hurried to meet a publication deadline. Glitches can range from minor graphical errors to serious bugs that can delete saved data or cause the game to malfunction.

Publishers release ‘Patches’ to fix such bugs. **Glitches useful to the player are called ‘Exploits’**

**Easter Eggs** - hidden messages or jokes left in games by developers that are not part of the main game. Cheat codes are a special form of easter eggs

Criticisms -

Reduce Concentration in studies - Addiction to games

Influence young minds in possibly bad ways - Violence, etc

Children don't go out to play - increases risks of obesity

Benefits -

May be educational and fun

Some games bring attention to important issues(social, political, economic) - **Dumb Ways to Die** is a game aimed to improve awareness about train accidents

Puzzle Games help improve knowledge and memory, etc

Fitness Games help battle obesity and are also fun

**Game Sales** are at a HIGH - According to the market research firm SuperData, as of May 2015, the global games market was worth US$74.2 billion.

Gaming industry is becoming a major industry. North America is currently at top $23.6 billion, but soon Asia is expected to cross as more and more free-to-play and mobile games come.

**Conventions** - annual GamesCom in Cologne in August (leading convention), E3 in June in Los Angeles (global importance, but only for industry insiders), Tokyo Game Show in September (main fair in Asia)

Other specific conventions are BlizzCon (Blizzard), MineCon (Minecraft by Mojang Studios), QuakeCon (Quake by ZeniMax Media), X Con (Xbox by Microsoft), NVision (NVidia)

**Esports** - Video Game competitions played by professional gamers worldwide. common genres are fighting, first-person shooter (FPS), multiplayer online battle arena (MOBA) and real-time strategy. Major League Gaming (MLG) is a company that reports tournaments that are held across the country.

**Genres of Video games -**

**Action -**

**Platform -** Donkey Kong, Mario Bros.

**Shooter** -

**Hero Shooter** - Overwatch, Paladins, Gigantic

**MOBA (Multiplayer Online Battle Arena)** - Dota 2, League of Legends

**Shoot em ups (FPS)** - Counter Strike, Wolfenstein 3D, Doom, Half life

**Fighting** - Super Smash Bros.

**Beat em ups** - Street Fighter Series

**Stealth** - Metal Gear series

**Survival** - Minecraft, Fortnite, Playerunknown's BattleGrounds

**Rhythm** - Guitar Hero

**Action-Adventure** - Legend of Zelda (revolutionized 8 bit era gaming)

**Survival Horror** - Resident Evil Series

**Metroidvania** - Metroid and Castlevania Series

**Adventure** -

**Text and Graphics** - Zork, Mystery House

**Visual Novels** - Ace Attorney

**Interactive Movie** - Tex Murphy, Fahrenheit (Indigo Prophecy)

**Realtime 3D** - Nightfall, Uru: Ages beyond Myst

**Role-Playing** -

**Action RPG** - Dragon Slayer Series

**MMORPG** - Final Fantasy XI, Lord of the Rings Online, Elder Scrolls Online, World of Warcraft

**Tactical RPG** - Final Fantasy Tactics

**Sandbox RPG** - Deus Ex, Elder Scrolls, Fallout Series

**First-person Party based RPG** - Dungeon Master

**Choices** - Minecraft: Story Mode

**Fantasy** - Diablo, Baldur’s Gate

**Simulation** -

**Construction and management simulation** - SimCity, Caesar Trilogy

**Life** - SimLife, Spore

**Vehicle** - Orbiter

**Strategy** -

**4X(eXplore, eXpand, eXploit and eXterminate)** - Empire Earth, Civilization

**Artillery** - Pocket tanks, Worms

**Realtime** - Warhammer: Dark Omen, World In Conflict

**MOBA** - Smite, DOTA 2

**Tower Defense** - Plants vs Zombies

**Turn based Strategy** - Master of Orion

**Turn based Tactics** - Wars

**Wargame** - Commandos

**Sports** -

**Racing** - Need for Speed Series

**Physical sports** - FIFA

**Competitive** - Ball Jacks