**COMM 105G READING WORKSHEET**

**Author, publication date, title**: “Professionalizing Players (excerpt).” T. L. Taylor, 2012. Raising the Stakes: E-sports and the Professionalization of Computer Games, pp. 85-110.

**What is this reading’s topic? Where and when was the research done?**

This reading’s topic is about how amateur gamers turn into professional gamers. The author mentions that the road is long and bumpy, and for most, unsuccessful. This research was done in 2012 in Massachusetts.

**What is the author(s)’s argument? Try to find it in the reading—noting the page number—and then restate it in your own words:**

The author’s argument is that professional gamers don’t just automatically start off as professional; they start off as amateurs and slowly work their way to even try to become professional gamers. He talks about the process of gamers getting bored of playing with their friend group after a while because they are no longer being challenged and how they start playing with people they find during their games instead.

**Which methods did the author(s) use to collect data?**

The author interviewed gamers and observed them as methods to collect data.

**What pieces of evidence help support the argument? Note page numbers:**

“Many average and casual players may never hit the online functionality of a game and seek out new people to compete against. Pro gamers are different in this respect. Testing their skills beyond their network of friends and family is fun, is a challenge, is where the real action is. The move to playing beyond their immediate social network is an important developmental step in the life of a pro gamer.” (Pg. 88)

“It is not unusual for a gamer to start with their offline friends and family but, as their play progresses, get “ picked up ”by another clan whose members they only know online.” (Pg. 88)

**What did this reading make you think about? Is there anything that you are still confused about/would like to know more about?**

This reading made me think about how everyone starts somewhere. Someone you could think is the best soccer player started off as a beginner and worked their way up to be the best. The same applies for gamers; they start off and slowly work their way up to being professional. I personally like watching people playing games and I tend to think that people are so good and wishing I was as good as they are. I have to remember that they started somewhere and if I really wanted to play like them, I just need to practice and keep playing.