

Royal University of Phnom Penh
Institute of Foreign Languages
Department of English

Name: Yon Sokuntheavy

Class: A3.5

Reading Log 1

The title of what u read	Date	What's the story about? (summarize)	New Vocabulary	Opinion
Olympics and Saudi Arabia abandon esports Games deal	31.10.2025	The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has cancelled its 12-year agreement with Saudi Arabia to the inaugural Olympic Esports Games in Riyadh in 2027, citing mutual consent to pursue separate esports ambitions. The event, initially planned for 2025, was delayed due to organization concerns. Despite this, Saudi Arabia continues to invest heavily in esports World Cup and launching the Esports Nations Cup in 2026. The country is also expanding its influence in the gaming industry, recently bidding \$55 billion to acquire Electronic Arts and holding stakes in major publishers like Take Two, Capcom, and Nintendo. These moves have sparked criticism over “sports washing” and led some content creators to protest. Meanwhile, the IOC remains committed to developing its own Olympic Esports Games. Although plans for esports at the 2026 Commonwealth Games have been dropped.	Esports (n): Competitive video gaming as a professional sport	I think it's interesting that the IOC and Saudi Arabia decided to part ways on the Olympic Esports Games. It sounds like both sides want to follow their own vision for esports, which makes sense. Saudi Arabia is clearly serious about gaming with all the investments and big moves like trying to buy EA. I get why some people are concerned about “sports washing,” but it's hard to ignore how fast they're growing in the esports space. I'm curious to see how the IOC's own esports plans will turn out, especially since the Commonwealth Games dropped theirs.

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Reading Log 2

The title of what u read	Date	What's the story about? (summarize)	New Vocabulary	Opinion
Honor of Kings breaks esports attendance Guinness World Record	09.11.2025	Honor of Kings broke the Guinness Record for largest live esports audience with 62,196 fans at China's Bird's Nest Stadium, where AG Super Play won the 2025 King Pro league Grand Finals. The event marked the game's 10-year anniversary and global expansion, with tickets selling out in 12 seconds. Upcoming tournaments include the 2025 International Championship and Challenger Cup, featuring top global, women's and grassroots teams. AG Super Play remains the dominant favorite.	Guinness World Record (n): An official recognition of world-best achievement.	I think it's amazing that <i>Honor of Kings</i> packed over 62,000 fans into one stadium and it shows how far mobile esports has come. The fact that tickets sold out in 12 seconds is just insane. AG Super Play winning again made the whole event even more epic, and I'm really looking forward to the upcoming global tournaments.

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Reading Log 3

The title of what u read	Date	What's the story about? (summarize)	New Vocabulary	Opinion
Indigenous lands must be recognised as part of climate policy, says Brazilian minister	15.11.2025	At Cop30, Brazil's Indigenous minister Sonia Guajajara urged nations to treat Indigenous land demarcation as essential for critical minerals and gold. Guajara promoted the Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF), aiming to raise \$125 billion to preserve forests. The UK, despite the fund, withdrew support, straining ties with Brazil. China showed interest but hasn't committed funds, citing rich nations' responsibility for climate action. Environment minister Marina Silva emphasized TFFF is an investment, not a donation. Indigenous protests briefly halted Cop30 talks, highlighting land rights concerns. Brazil hopes global cooperation will protect forests and Indigenous communities.	Indigenous (n/adj) : refers to people, plants, or cultures that are native to a specific region or environment. Often used to describe ethnic groups who are original inhabitants of a land before colonization or migration.	I think Sonia Guajajara made a powerful point at Cop30. Indigenous land protection should absolutely be part of climate policy, especially with the growing demand for critical minerals and gold. The Tropical Forest Forever Facility sounds like a bold and necessary step, and it's disappointing that the UK backed out despite helping design it. I get why China is hesitant, but climate responsibility shouldn't fall only on rich nations. I agree with Marina Silva that this fund is an investment in our planet's future, not just charity. The Indigenous protests really highlight how urgent these issues are. I hope more countries step up to protect forests and Indigenous communities.

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Reading Log 4

The title of what u read	Date	What's the story about? (summarize)	New Vocabulary	Opinion
Chess grandmaster Carlsen wins at Esports World Cup	02.08.2025	Magnus Carlsen, the world's top chess grandmaster, won the first online chess tournament at the Esports World Cup (EWC) in Riyadh, earning \$250,000. The EWC, one of the largest global gaming events, featured 25 games over seven weeks and a \$70 million prize pool. Chess's inclusion sparked debate, but organizers defended it as a valid esport. Carlsen triumphed over Alireza Firouzja in the finals, marking a new milestone for chess 139 years after the first world champion. The event featured live audiences, heart-rate monitors, and professional production. Carlsen praised the experience and expressed hope for chess's growing role in esports.	Inaugural (adj): First-ever, marking the beginning of something	I think it's awesome that Magnus Carlsen won the first online chess tournament at the Esports World Cup. It's cool to see chess being recognized as part of esports, even if some people questioned it. The setup with live audiences and heart-rate monitors made it feel intense, like a real sport. Carlsen beating Firouzja and winning \$250,000 shows how strong he still is. I like that he's open to modern formats and pushing chess into new spaces. It really feels like a milestone for the game.

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Reading Log 5

The title of what u read	Date	What's the story about? (summarize)	New Vocabulary	Opinion
Taylor Swift drops 'Eras Tour' doc trailer, with 'mysterious forces at play'	13.11.2025	Taylor Swift has released the trailer for her Disney+ docuseries <i>The End of an Era</i> , offering behind-the-scenes footage from her record-breaking Eras Tour. The six-part series explore the tour's emotional impact, her creative process, and personal moments, including her relationship with fiancé Travis Kelce. Guest artists like Ed Sheeran and Sabrina Carpenter also appear. The first two episodes premiere on December 12, one day before Swift's 36th birthday, alongside the concert film <i>The Eras Tour: The Final Show</i> .	Forthcoming (adj): Upcoming; soon to be released	I think it's a really exciting move. I love how Taylor's not just ending the Eras Tour but turning it into something lasting with this docuseries. It's personal, creative, and gives fans like me a deeper look into her world, both on stage and off. I'm especially curious to see the behind the scenes moments and how she balances her music with her relationship. It feels like a perfect way to wrap up such a huge era.