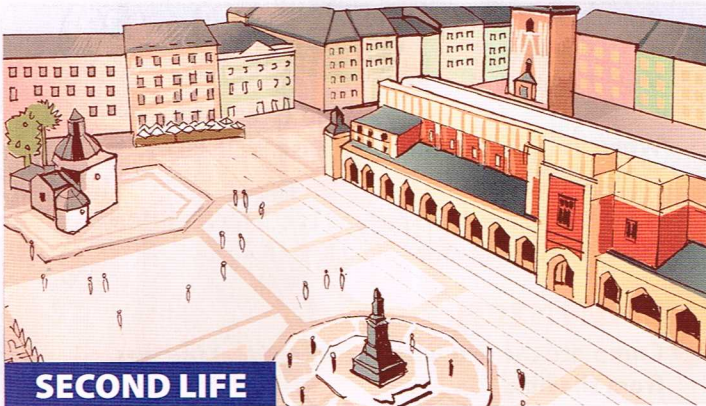


- 1 You're going to read about an online multi-player game. Do you play such games? Do you know anything about Second Life?

gimnazjumworkout

- 2 Read the text and answer the questions. Mark the sections where you have found the answers. Put the numbers of the questions next to the sections marked. What can you notice about questions 1–3? How is the last question different?



SECOND LIFE

Second Life (SL for short) was started in 2003 by Linden Lab, an American company. It has around 10 million users, called residents.

SL is not just a computer game, it's a flat virtual world with thousands of islands. You are represented by an avatar (avie), a character whose appearance you design.

You can visit different places created by users. Many are dream homes, but companies like Disney also appear in SL. Recently, Sweden has opened an embassy, the second country to do so after the Maldives.

Real-world places have been simulated too, for example Las Vegas, Rome's Colosseum or Cracow's Market Square. Building costs: you buy virtual land with in-world money, the Linden dollar (one US dollar is L\$ 266).

- 1 According to the text, which is the best description of SL?
 - A A computer game.
 - B A virtual world.
 - C A group of islands.
- 2 Which of these is new in SL?
 - A The Swedish embassy.
 - B The Maldives embassy.
 - C The Disney entry.
- 3 The Market Square in Cracow
 - A is going to be built in SL.
 - B is one of only three real-world locations in SL.
 - C has already been recreated in SL.
- 4 The text
 - A informs about SL.
 - B criticises SL.
 - C advertises SL.

gimnazjumexam

- 3 Przeczytaj poniższy tekst. Z podanych odpowiedzi A, B i C wybierz właściwą, zgodną z treścią tekstu.

MAGGIE-ON-LINE

28 March 2008

A NEW DIFFERENT LIFE OF MINE

I'll surprise you today. I haven't written about it, but I've been a Second Life resident (you must all know the game) for months. The great possibilities of creation in SL fascinate me.

In SL you design your appearance. In reality you may, say, be plump and unattractive, so you are shy. In SL you can have a good figure and be fit, which makes you self-confident. My character is much taller than the real Maggie. You can modify the appearance any time. You don't have to keep your sex or human form (fox-like 'furries' are common avatars). I must try that.

SL residents helped me a lot at the beginning. They came up to me, started talking and showed me many attractions. I visited wonderful islands and went to hip-hop concerts. One of my virtual friends, Lina Lux, told me about Roma, SL's Ancient Rome, now my favourite island.

Soon SL may become my *first* life.

16 comments

- 1 Maggie thinks
 - A everyone knows about SL.
 - B creativity in SL is very limited.
 - C the world of SL is not interesting.
 - 2 According to the text, thanks to SL you can
 - A become slimmer.
 - B feel better.
 - C change your character.
 - 3 How is Maggie's avie different from herself?
 - A Maggie doesn't have a good figure.
 - B The avie looks like a fox.
 - C Their height is different.
 - 4 The residents of SL are
 - A shy.
 - B helpful.
 - C very talkative.
 - 5 The text is taken from
 - A an online encyclopedia.
 - B a blog.
 - C a newspaper.
- 4 What is the 'first' life? How do you understand the last line of the text?
- 5 Do you agree with the author's opinion of Second Life? In pairs write down five disadvantages of the game. Discuss in class.