

Name (print): _____

Block: _____

Games People Probably Shouldn't Play (article)

Directions: Read the following article from **BUSINESSWEEK** and complete the steps below. For **EACH** sentence:

1. Underline the parts that are **fact**—something that can be proved to be true or untrue.
 2. Highlight the parts that are **opinions**—something a person believes.
 3. Circle the **credentials** of those who offer their opinions—educational or professional evidence of authority. (i.e. Why should you believe them?)
 4. Answer questions #1-5 from p. 61 of the *Language of Literature* textbook.
-

According to the company that started the trend, some 18,000 people in hundreds of different weekend groups in the U.S. and Canada pay \$30, \$50, or more per person to take part in an outdoor "game" that you might want to consider carefully-very carefully-before anyone in your family joins in. Called by such names as "Skirmish," "The War Game," and "Survival" (it was originated by National Survival Games of New London, N.H.), the game has two teams of players competing in a woodland setting to capture each other's flag. But to reach the flag, players "kill" their rivals-by shooting them with realistic pistols that fire gelatin pellets filled with red dye.

The game is supposedly safe—players wear goggles—but reports

Name (print): _____

Block: _____

Games People Probably Shouldn't Play (article)

of eye damage have rival companies arguing over whose guns are less likely to cause injury. It's also said to be wholesome fun, according to some 400 to 500 franchised dealers who rent guns to use on playing fields across the country (and in West Germany, Britain, and Japan, says Toronto-based Adventure Game of America). But Georgia Lanoil, a psychologist on the board of the Journal of Preventive Psychiatry, disputes claims that playing provides a harmless release for pent-up aggressions. A conclusion drawn from studies on anger, she says, is that hostile behavior often is a rehearsal for future action. "It's one step beyond viewing violent films, and isn't like football, where you try to get past your opponent to the goal. Here, the goal is annihilation." Adds Dr. Robert London, director of short-term psychotherapy at New York University Medical Center-Bellevue: "Why anyone would get high on people-hunting and simulated murder is something they should discuss with their therapist."