Drone Racing

Gap fill
Listen to the story and fill in the blanks.

What's the latest _____ in sport? Drone racing. Popular with _____ geeks and thrill-seekers, drone racing combines _____ reality technology with video game _____ .

The history of drone racing starts in _____ . Instead of flying drones around a field, amateur flyers _____ to have fun by organizing races. Small _____ on the drones allowed flyers to record and _____ races. As video clips of racing drones spread across _____ media, interest in the sport grew.

Racing drone _____ is different from the machines sold to _____ stores. Racing drones are _____ to go fast. Many fly up to 160 kph. In addition, drone flyers, called _____ , wear a special pair of goggles that lets them see what the _____ sees.

The feeling is very virtual _____ . It's like you're in the driver's seat of the drone. Good quality racing drones cost around $ _____ . Some are more than $3000. The goggles cost between $100 and $ _____ .

Like a video game, racing is _____ . Races are held on a track. Some are inside a building and others are outdoors. Indoor tracks have _____ , like walls and tunnels, which means collisions do occur. It's common for a drone to hit something and _____ into small pieces.

Races are held in many _____ including the US, Canada, England and France. International games attract 100 or more racers hoping to _____ cash. In 2016, a pilot from England won $ _____ for finishing first in a race in Dubai.

Drone racing is a new sport that seems to be _____ _____ . Some races are shown on TV. It's a fast and furious sport that takes _____ _____ game technology to the next level.

Synonym match
Match the words or phrases.

1. combine   a. flourish
2. virtual   b. shatter
3. smash   c. blend
4. catch on   d. avant-garde
5. cutting edge   e. computer generated

True or false
Choose the correct answer.

1. Drone popularity is fading. T or F
2. Drone racing started around 2014. T or F
3. Drone speeds can reach 160 mph. T or F
4. Collisions are common in drone racing. T or F
5. Pilots fly drones. T or F

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Anagrams
Move letters. Make a new word.

TAATRTC _____   IRVLAUT _____

ATRLEIY _____   ASSLTEBOC _____

IETIPMTNCOO _____   SIOOSNLICL _____

ESL discussion questions
Talk about the story

1. Do you know anybody who owns a drone?
2. Compare and contrast drone racing and playing a video game.
3. Describe a drone racing event.
4. What are the pros and cons of drone racing as a hobby?
5. Would you ever fly in a drone taxi?
6. Should drone pilots be required to get a license?

Writing practice
Put the words in the correct order.

1. be / Drone / to / racing / seems / catching / on / that / is / sport / a / new

   _____

2. for / smash / pieces / something / a / It's / and / common / to / hit / small / into / drone

   _____

3. stores / to / sold / Racing / machines / the / department / is / technology / different / drone / from

   _____

4. you're / like / It's / the / seat / of / drone / driver's / the / in

   _____

5. across / grew / in / interest / media / video / the / of / As / drones / racing / clips / sport / social / spread

   _____