What makes things fun to learn?

Heuristics for Designing Instructional Computer Games

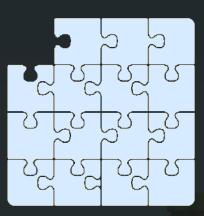
Author: Thomas W. Malone

Year: 1980

Fantasy







Fantasy

- Goal
 - Simple games: provide obvious goals
 - Complex: let players create goals
 - Practical or fantasy-related
 - Performance feedback
- Uncertainty
 - Variable difficulty level
 - Multiple level goals
 - Hidden information
 - Randomness



Fantasy

- Extrinsic fantasy (Utenforliggende)
 - Domain-independent: the skill does not depend on the fantasy



- Intrinsic fantasy (Iboende)
 - Domain-dependent: the fantasy depends on the skill and vice versa
 - Preferred







Fantasy

- Motivation to learn
- Optimal complexity in game environments
- Sensory curiosity
 - Audio and visual effects
 - Decoration, reward, or fantasy enhancement
- Cognitive curiosity
 - Incomplete structure or knowledge
- Informative feedback



