

Reading

Read the text and answer the questions.

The words that appear in italics are translated in the glossary below, but try to do the exercise *before* you use it.

The ZX Spectrum

In April 1982 a British company, headed by Sir Clive Sinclair, *launched* the ZX Spectrum computer on the market and *sparked* an IT revolution.

The tiny black computer with its rubber keys ignited the home computer age both in the UK and elsewhere, which led to a *boom* in computer manufacturing and developed software programmers whose talent is still evident today.

The ZX Spectrum was the *brainchild* of the entrepreneur Clive Sinclair, who had previously developed one of the first cheap and slim pocket calculators. The Spectrum was Sinclair's fourth computer, but was *by far* the most successful.

For many people, the ZX Spectrum was their first experience of using a computer and it soon gained a loyal following. In fact, it would not be a great exaggeration to credit Clive Sinclair and his ZX Spectrum with almost *single-handedly* creating the IT industry in the UK and providing the first learning tools for the programmers who *shape* today's video games and information technology.

Even today, there are programs being written for the Spectrum, though it has not been made for years. The computer was so successful that there are many nostalgic users all over the world, who *look back on* this machine with great affection.

The ZX Spectrum had an ordinary keyboard.

True False

Q2 - The computer had a great impact only in the UK.

True False

Q3 - The impact of the computer is still noticeable today.

True False

Q4 - Clive Sinclair had not worked in electronics before making the computer.

True False

Q5 - He only made computers.

True False

Q6 - A lot of people had not used a computer before they bought the ZX Spectrum.

True False

Q7 - The IT industry in the UK owes a lot to Clive Sinclair.

True False

Q8 - The computer was influential in the area of video games.

True False

Q9 - People are writing programs for it because the computer is still on the market.

True False

Q10 - Many people have fond memories of this computer.

True False

Glossary:

To launch:

lanzar

To spark:

provocar

Brainchild:

creación, invento

By far:

de lejos

Single-handedly:

sin ayuda, sólo

To shape:

dar forma, determinar

To look back on:

recordar