THE SPORTS O

Sport is full of fun, excitement, and goal celebrations. If you're missing the live matches now because of the quarantine, don't worry. This is the perfect time to discover e-sports, and maybe even try them for yourself.
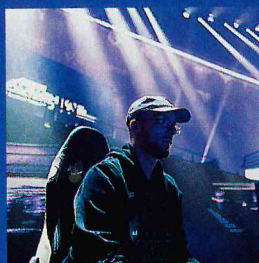
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Task
Put these sentences back into the text.

A Even 14th place could win you half a million!

B But it's not all just online.

C This idea makes some people angry.

D Each had multi-million-dollar prizes for the finalists.

↑ SOLUTIONS IN THE TF

What Are E-Sports?

An e-sport is a type of multiplayer video game that people enjoy watching, even if they're not players – just like football and other live sports. Matches are usually streamed live on sites like YouTube and Twitch, and there are also in-person **tournaments**[1] in stadiums.

Big Events, Big Prizes

E-sports are nothing new. Their popularity has been growing for years. Last year there was a record number of e-sports events with multi-million-dollar prizes. The biggest e-sports games, such as *DOTA 2*, *League of Legends* and *Fortnite*, even made world news. Almost 44 million people watched the *League of Legends* finals, the highest number of viewers ever of any e-sports competitions, followed by *Fortnite* with 2.33 million viewers and *DOTA 2* with 1.96 million. **1** _____

A Millionaire Gamer

At the Fortnite championships, a total of $30 million in prize money was **given out**[2] to finalists. The winner, Kyle Giersdorf, who was only 16 at the time and a secondary school student, took home $3 million. The total prize money at the *DOTA 2* International Championship in China a few months later was even more – over $34 million. **2** _____ As computer gaming and e-sports keep getting more popular, we might see even bigger tournament prizes in the future.

Why so Popular?

One reason these e-sports are so popular is because viewers can watch them for free on sites like YouTube and Twitch. The people who make the games try to make them easy to watch for **spectators**[3], because a game that becomes an e-sport is great for **sales**[4]. **3** _____ Some tournaments are played live in stadiums in front of a crowd of fans. For example, the *Fortnite* championships in June 2019 took place in the Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York, the home of the US Open tennis tournament. The most recent *Rocket League* World Championship finals in December 2019 were at the Palacio Vistalegre in Madrid, an arena built on top of a **former**[5] **bullfighting ring**[6]. In South Korea, where e-sports are extremely popular, they even show live e-sports events on national television.