

Ingress and Pokémon Go

Aims

To familiarise yourself with the two augmented reality games “Ingress” and “Pokémon Go”.

Your Tasks

If you don’t already play both “Ingress” and “Pokémon Go” you will need to download the software and do some research into them (i.e. play them) for at least a couple of weeks. What you do today will depend on whether you have already played either game before.

If you have never played either “Ingress” or “Pokémon Go”:

- Download the software for “Pokémon Go” and create an account. You should be able to see at least 1 Pokéstop from the lab – catch stuff!
- Note down your answers to the following questions:
 1. Why have you never played this before now?
 2. Who do you think this game would appeal to?
 3. Does this look easy to play?
 4. What do you think might keep people interested in it?
 5. How do you feel playing this game?

If you have never played “Ingress” but you have played “Pokémon Go”:

- Download the software for “Ingress” and create an account. You should be able to see at least 1 portal from the lab – connect to them!
- Note down your answers to the following questions:
 1. Why have you never played this before now?
 2. Who do you think this game would appeal to?
 3. Does this look easy to play compared to Pokémon Go?
 4. Which faction did you join, and why?
 5. If you have reached the appropriate level in Pokémon Go, what team did you join, and why?
 6. What do you think might keep people interested in it?
 7. If you used to play the game but have given it up, why was that?
 8. How do you feel playing this game?

If you have never played “Pokémon Go” but you have played “Ingress”:

- Download the software for “Pokémon Go” and create an account. You should be able to see at least 1 portal from the lab – connect to them!
- Note down your answers to the following questions:
 1. Why have you never played this before now?
 2. Who do you think this game would appeal to?
 3. Does this look easy to play compared to Ingress?
 4. Which Ingress faction did you join, and why?
 5. What do you think might keep people interested in it?
 6. If you used to play the game but have given it up, why was that?
 7. How do you feel playing this game?

If you have played both “Pokémon Go” and “Ingress”:

- Note down your answers to the following questions:
 1. How long have you played each game?
 2. Which team/faction do you belong to?
 3. Do you still play both games? If not, which one(s) did you give up, and why?
 4. How difficult did you find each game to play?
 5. What is your favourite thing about each game?
 6. How do you feel playing each game?

Once everyone has had a chance to play at least one game then we will discuss these questions as a class.

Notes

You should work in small groups for these labs, ensuring that at least one person in each group has a smartphone that will play each game. If you don't have a smartphone that can play the games it is fine to team up with someone who does have such a phone in order to play the games. These two apps will be referred to in several of the early tutorials for this module.