

**Blog posting # 3**

Title satisfying good-title requirements (i.e., informative <i>and</i> eye catching)	100
All statements and positions are clear and to-the-point	100
All statements are grammatically accurate and easy-to-follow	100

**Average earned = 100 (of 100)**

**Gender ambiguity in the new game Glitch**

My current favorite video game is the new MMORPG, Glitch. What's interesting about this game is the gender-neutral approach it takes to player characters. Unlike games like World of Warcraft or even The Sims, where players' characters are obviously male or female, Glitch characters have no obvious gender markings -- no ridiculously large breasts or muscles. Instead, players can mix and match gender features to create their own unique look. Facial features, hair styles, and clothing options are available to any player; the only limitations are whether or not a player pays a subscription fee. The game even offers players the option of going completely without clothes or wearing black "censorship" bars. A player's real life gender is often masked by his or her Glitch's design, but my own character has female features since I used my real name for my Glitch. I've seen players with typical male names wear skirts and dresses, and I've seen players with typical female names wear masculine-style clothes. I think I may change my character's name some time in the future for something more generic, just to play around with the game's various gender options.

(You can view some of the Glitch characters without having a game account at this address: <http://glitchmash.iamcal.com/top/>. I wonder how many male-looking Glitch are played by real life men, and how many female-looking Glitch are played by real life women.)