Appendix B. SLIDES AND IMAGES USED FOR TRAINING SESSION AND USER TASKS

A taxonomy for describing video game visual styles: training session

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Current CV for video games’ visual styles

A1. abstract
   A1.1. psychedelic
   A1.2. text
   A1.3. other abstract styles
A2. realism
   A2.1. illusionism
   A2.2. photorealism
   A2.3. televisualism
   A2.4. other realism styles

A3. stylized
   A3.1. handicraft
   A3.2. illustrative
      A3.2.1. caricature
      A3.2.2. cel-shaded
      A3.2.3. comic book (anime/manga)
      A3.2.4. watercolor
      A3.2.5. other illustrative styles
   A3.3. Lego
   A3.4. minimalism
   A3.5. pixel art
   A3.6. silhouette
   A3.7. other stylized styles
Basic rules

• Select the most specific term possible
  ex) select “A2.2. photorealism” instead of “A2. realism”
• You can assign multiple terms (up to 5) for each example
  ex) cel-shaded; comic book; watercolor

• This is a “think aloud” session, so please share your thoughts and feelings as you assign the terms. We may ask you questions about your comments after the session.
• We will also have time to discuss the taxonomy in detail after your task is finished. We will very much appreciate any suggestions for improving our taxonomy.

A1. abstract
A1.1. psychedelic

A specific abstract style featuring "kaleidoscopically swirling patterns" in bright, multicolored entropic motifs, commonly found in rhythm games
A1. abstract
A1.2. text

A specific abstract style where the artistic elements are primarily conveyed through the use of text, common in older video games

A2. realism
A2.1. illusionism

A photorealistic style which portrays fantastical or science-fiction characters and environments in a realistic manner, or as consistent with reality, and this results in games portraying "an illusion of an unreal world"
A2. realism
A2.2. photorealism

A2. realism
A2.3. televisualism

A photorealistic style that combines realism with the artistic and graphical features found in television programming, for example, scores during a sports broadcast or the framing of stories in a nightly news show.
A3. stylized
A3.1. handicraft

A style that replicates the visual aspects of hand-made and hand-crafted objects, often emphasizes textures, surfaces, and an otherwise unrefined aesthetic. (Ex) paper, yarn, clay, etc.

A3. stylized
A3.2. illustrative
A3.2.1. caricature

An illustrative style that captures or distorts the distinctive features of a person or object in order to capture a quick visual likeness. Simplified characters or objects can be also considered as “caricature style”
A3. stylized
   A3.2. illustrative
      A3.2.2. cel-shaded

A technique of rendering light and shadow to enhance the illusion of a 3D surface, giving the modeled entity a cartoon-like appearance due to the effect of rounding the edges and eliminating gradations of color. It also gives a feel of hand-drawn animation.

A3. stylized
   A3.2. illustrative
      A3.2.3. comic book (anime/manga)

The look which replicates the common artistic elements found in mass-market comic books, such as accentuated features and line strokes.
A3. stylized
A3.2. illustrative
A3.2.4. watercolor
An illustrative style where characters and environments look like they are painted in water color

A3. stylized
A3.3. Lego
The distinctive look of Lego figures and/or sets
A3. stylized  
A3.4. minimalism

A style characterized by its lack of decorative content and an overall emphasis on simple forms, lines and colors. In describing video game art, it should refer to the intentional simplifying of an entity of landscape into basic but recognizable forms, without being abstract.

A3. stylized  
A3.5. pixel art

The use of the primitive pixelated style found in early 8 and 16-bit games and also in some modern games.
A3. stylized
A3.6. silhouette

A style in which characters or environments are represented as a solid shape of a single color, usually black. The interior of a silhouette is basically featureless, and the whole is typically presented on a light background, or none at all.

Any questions or comments before we start?
1. Gero Blaster

2. Dyad
3. New Super Mario Bros 2

4. Final Fantasy 14
5. Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3

6. NBA 2K10
7. Grand Theft Auto 5

8. Little Big Planet 2
9. FIFA 14

10. Tetris Blitz
11. Grim of Fandango

12. SounDrift
13. Diablo 3

14. Thomas Was Alone
15. Jet Set Radio

16. Tengami
17. Okami

18. Framed
19. Over My Dead Body

20. Lego Harry Potter
21. Har Mo Ny

22. Minecraft
23. Limbo

24. Hotline Miami
25. Insanely Twisted Shadow Planet

26. Legend of the Red Dragon
27. Shadow of Colossus

28. The Sims 3
29. Katamari Damacy

30. Sid Meier’s Alpha Centauri