Questions on: 'Five minutes with Ben Schwartz'

1) The character of Sonic the Hedgehog first appeared in a...

☐ book ☐ videogame ☐ film ☐ TV series

2) **"I played Sonic for years. Now I am playing Sonic!"**

Can you explain what the actor means?

3) To act the character of Sonic, Ben tried to be just like a...

☐ Hedgehog
☐ Little kid
☐ Videogame character

4) What does Ben say is a **"thrill beyond a thrill"**?

5) Find **three** words Ben uses to describe the character of Sonic.

1: .....
2: .....
3: .....

6) Who do you think is the '**baddie**' in the film and the games? What information tells you this?

7) Why did Ben have dots all over his face during filming?

8) Can you think of another videogame that could be turned into a film? Explain your choice and your ideas.

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

FIVE MINUTES WITH...

BEN SCHWARTZ

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Paramount

BEN Schwartz is the voice of the fastest hedgehog in town, in the new live-action film *Sonic the Hedgehog*.

How would you describe the differences between 'game Sonic' and 'movie Sonic'?

Well, I played Sonic for years. Now I am playing Sonic! There are aspects of the videogame that, if you have played it, you will see them in the movie. But we also wanted to make a movie that works for all ages, for everybody.

What's your Sonic like?

I'm playing him like a very energetic kid. I want it to feel like you're looking at a little kid who is just so excited to be there and so happy.

I tried to figure out the things that make him unique. You know, how quick he is, obviously, but also, he's kind of sassy. Like, when you wait too long, he starts tapping his foot! He has this attitude. He's a funny kid. He has fun and can't believe he has the opportunity to go and do whatever he wants. I was like: "I need to bring that."

Also, he's so fast that nothing has ever really been a threat to him, so he's so confident whenever he's doing anything. It's only when he meets Dr Robotnik that someone is really making him scared.

How did they turn you into the animated Sonic?

[First], they took pictures of me doing all of these different emotions with my face. We took a ton of pictures.

Then, when we were recording, they would put dots on my face and I would have a helmet with a camera and a light on, so any time I did anything, the animators would have something to animate from. [The dots are used by computers to track movement.]

I'm a little nerd for this stuff. I was very excited to get those dots because I've seen them used in *The Avengers* before, so it was very exciting! And to see the things Sonic does, and to see that he looks like me when he's doing them? That is a thrill beyond a thrill.

***Sonic the Hedgehog* is available to download and keep now!**

DID YOU KNOW?
***Sonic the Hedgehog* is a videogame series made by Sega. Sonic first appeared in 1991, making the little hedgehog 29 years old!**