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**Level 2** – 26th September, 2020

## Water seller becomes China's richest man

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200926-richest-man-2.html>

### Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200926-richest-man-2.html>

A businessman is now the richest man in China. The magazine Bloomberg's Billionaires Index named Mr Zhong Shanshan as China's richest man. The magazine said Mr Zhong is worth over \$58 billion. He is \$2 billion richer than the previous number one, Jack Ma. Mr Ma is the boss of the Internet giant Alibaba. Mr Zhong made his money from his Nongfu Spring bottled water company. He also makes vaccines. He is the chairman of a vaccine manufacturer. Mr Zhong is now 17th on the global rich list. It seems that he will move up that list in the future.

Zhong Shanshan, 66, was once a construction worker. He started his water company in 1996, just as China's market for bottled water was emerging. Bottled water is now a big industry in China. Most people who live in China prefer bottled water to tap water for health reasons. Zhong's vaccine company is helping in the fight against COVID-19. It is developing a spray vaccine with the help of researchers from a top university. Chinese media call Mr Zhong a "lone wolf" because he is rarely seen in public. He rarely gives interviews and he likes to keep himself to himself.

Sources: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/bottled-water-billionaire-pips-jack-ma-to-become-china-s-richest--13143916>  
<https://www.ft.com/content/14143352-5316-467f-aeb8-7f5200e4ac3f>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/09/24/business/china-zhong-shanshan-nongfu-intl-hnk/index.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200926-richest-man-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. A businessman is         | a. on the global rich list |
| 2. Mr Zhong is worth        | b. giant Alibaba           |
| 3. richer than the previous | c. over \$58 billion       |
| 4. the boss of the Internet | d. that list               |
| 5. He also makes            | e. manufacturer            |
| 6. a vaccine                | f. number one              |
| 7. Mr Zhong is now 17th     | g. now the richest         |
| 8. he will move up          | h. vaccines                |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. China's market for bottled water | a. a "lone wolf     |
| 2. prefer bottled water             | b. was emerging     |
| 3. helping in the fight             | c. to himself       |
| 4. developing a spray               | d. to tap water     |
| 5. researchers from a               | e. in public        |
| 6. Chinese media call Mr Zhong "    | f. vaccine          |
| 7. he is rarely seen                | g. top university   |
| 8. he likes to keep himself         | h. against COVID-19 |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200926-richest-man-2.html>

A businessman is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ man in China. The magazine Bloomberg's Billionaires Index named Mr Zhong Shanshan as China's richest man. The magazine said Mr Zhong (2) \_\_\_\_\_ \$58 billion. He is \$2 billion richer than the (3) \_\_\_\_\_, Jack Ma. Mr Ma is the boss of the Internet giant Alibaba. Mr Zhong made (4) \_\_\_\_\_ his Nongfu Spring bottled water company. He also makes vaccines. He is the chairman (5) \_\_\_\_\_ manufacturer. Mr Zhong is now 17th on the global rich list. It seems that he will move (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in the future.

Zhong Shanshan, 66, (7) \_\_\_\_\_ construction worker. He started his water company in 1996, just as China's market for bottled water was emerging. Bottled water is now (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in China. Most people who live in China prefer bottled water to tap water (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Zhong's vaccine company is helping in the fight against COVID-19. It is developing (10) \_\_\_\_\_ with the help of researchers from a top university. Chinese media call Mr Zhong a "lone wolf" because he (11) \_\_\_\_\_ in public. He rarely gives interviews and he likes to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ himself.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200926-richest-man-2.html>

A businessman is now the richest man in China. The magazine Bloomberg's Billionaires Index named Mr Zhong Shanshan as China's richest man. The magazine said Mr Zhong is worth over \$58 billion. He is \$2 billion richer than the previous number one, Jack Ma. Mr Ma is the boss of the Internet giant Alibaba. Mr Zhong made his money from his Nongfu Spring bottled water company. He also makes vaccines. He is the chairman of a vaccine manufacturer. Mr Zhong is now 17th on the global rich list. It seems that he will move up that list in the future. Zhong Shanshan, 66, was once a construction worker. He started his water company in 1996, just as China's market for bottled water was emerging. Bottled water is now a big industry in China. Most people who live in China prefer bottled water to tap water for health reasons. Zhong's vaccine company is helping in the fight against COVID-19. It is developing a spray vaccine with the help of researchers from a top university. Chinese media call Mr Zhong a "lonewolf" because he is rarely seen in public. He rarely gives interviews and he likes to keep himself to himself.

# BEING RICH SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200926-richest-man-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about being rich in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

