

## Tech stocks lead 300-point rise on Dow Jones Index

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Stock prices rose sharply on Monday led by shares in technology giants. This caused the Dow Jones Industrial Average to rise by 353 points, or 1.2 per cent. Other financial indicators also saw gains, with the

Nasdaq Composite advancing 2.9 per cent and the S&P 500 rising 1.9 per cent. The three indices are the most-followed stock markets in the United States. A key performer on Monday was Apple, which soared an impressive six per cent. Analysts say this was on the back of investors anticipating the tech giant to unveil its first 5G smartphone later this week. Other tech giants fared well. Facebook, Amazon and Microsoft jumped 5.3 per cent, 5.2 per cent and 3.5 per cent respectively.

Trading on Wall Street on Monday saw its best performance in three months. Confidence among investors continues to be strong, despite the economic ravages created by the coronavirus pandemic. Analysts say the strength of tech companies is largely responsible for the bullish markets. Most of these companies have proved largely immune to the economic downturn experienced this year. Sales and use of many of their products and services have skyrocketed as people stay at home and become more dependent on the Internet. Energy stocks were the only stragglers on Monday. Their prices dropped after an unexpected fall in U.S. crude oil prices.

Sources: [cnbc.com](http://cnbc.com) / [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com) / [investors.com](http://investors.com)

### Writing

Everyone should invest in stocks and shares. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

stock prices / technology giants / Dow Jones / key performer / investors / Apple / trading / Wall Street / confidence / markets / economic downturn / energy / oil prices

### True / False

- a) The Dow Jones Index rose by over 350 points on Monday. T / F
- b) The S&P 500 index rose by nearly 2% on Monday. T / F
- c) Apple stocks rose by 5% on Monday. T / F
- d) Microsoft stocks fared better than Amazon's stocks on Monday. T / F
- e) Wall Street hadn't performed so well in three months. T / F
- f) The article said tech companies were responsible for a bear market. T / F
- g) Tech companies are working on a vaccine to make workers immune. T / F
- h) Energy companies fared poorly because of a drop in crude oil prices. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. <b>rose</b>         | a. damaging effects |
| 2. <b>indicators</b>   | b. did              |
| 3. <b>key</b>          | c. faith            |
| 4. <b>anticipating</b> | d. untreated        |
| 5. <b>fared</b>        | e. signs            |
| 6. <b>confidence</b>   | f. reliant          |
| 7. <b>ravages</b>      | g. shot up          |
| 8. <b>immune</b>       | h. expecting        |
| 9. <b>dependent</b>    | i. resistant        |
| 10. <b>crude</b>       | j. important        |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you know about stock markets?
- c) How interested are you in corporate finances?
- d) How has coronavirus affected your country's economy?
- e) Why are shares in tech giants strengthening during coronavirus?
- f) Why are energy companies faring badly?
- g) What affects the value of oil company stocks?
- h) What questions would you like to ask tech giant bosses?

## Phrase Match

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Stock prices rose            | a. the economic downturn    |
| 2. the most-followed            | b. performer                |
| 3. A key                        | c. 5G smartphone            |
| 4. Analysts say this was on the | d. on Wall Street on Monday |
| 5. unveil its first             | e. continues to be strong   |
| 6. trading                      | f. sharply on Monday        |
| 7. Confidence among investors   | g. markets                  |
| 8. responsible for the bullish  | h. an unexpected fall       |
| 9. largely immune to            | i. stock markets            |
| 10. Their prices dropped after  | j. back of investors        |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of stocks and shares?
- How risky is it to invest in tech stocks?
- What do you think of investing in stocks and shares
- What do you know about Wall Street?
- What financial indicators are you interested in?
- What do you think of tech giants?
- Would you prefer to invest in Apple or Amazon?
- What is the difference between a 4G and 5G smartphone?

## Spelling

- Other financial ctsiolanird
- which daoers an impressive six per cent
- on the back of nietsvors
- leiuvn its first 5G smartphone
- Other tech giants daref well
- 5.2 per cent and 3.5 per cent yeveptsicelr
- despite the economic aravseg
- largely responsible for the lublshi markets
- these companies have proved largely umnemi
- become more pedenentd on the Internet
- Energy stocks were the only arrlesstgg
- U.S. rdecu oil prices

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. e	3. j	4. h	5. b
6. c	7. a	8. i	9. f	10. d

## Role Play

### Role A – Technology

You think technology is the best thing to invest in. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these to invest in (and why): art, chocolate companies or English schools.

### Role B – Art

You think art is the best thing to invest in. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these to invest in (and why): technology, chocolate companies or English schools.

### Role C – Chocolate Companies

You think chocolate companies are the best things to invest in. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these to invest in (and why): art, technology or English schools.

### Role D – English Schools

You think English schools are the best things to invest in. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these to invest in (and why): art, chocolate companies or technology.

## Speaking – Stocks

Rank these with your partner. Put the best stocks to invest in at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| • alcohol companies   | • technology    |
| • chocolate companies | • art           |
| • jeans companies     | • car companies |
| • English schools     | • space travel  |

### Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.