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## **Level 4** – 14th October, 2020

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

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201014-tech-stocks-4.html>

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**Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201014-tech-stocks-4.html>

Stock prices have risen because of tech companies. The Dow Jones index rose by 353 points (or 1.2%) on Monday. The Nasdaq Composite advanced 2.9 per cent and the S&P 500 rose 1.9 per cent. The three are the most-followed stock markets in the USA. Apple was a key performer. Its stock went up six per cent. This was because investors think Apple will unveil its first 5G smartphone later this week. Facebook and Amazon also fared well.

Wall Street saw its best numbers in three months. Investor confidence remains strong, despite the economic damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Analysts say tech companies are largely responsible for the confidence. Most tech companies have proved to be immune to the downturn. Their sales have skyrocketed as people stay at home more. Energy stocks were hit. Their prices dropped after a sudden fall in U.S. crude oil prices.

Sources: <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/10/11/stock-market-futures-open-to-close-news.html>  
<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/asian-shares-mostly-higher-us-065647023.html>  
<https://www.investors.com/market-trend/stock-market-today/dow-jones-up-200-points-stock-market-rallies-stimulus-deal-hopes/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201014-tech-stocks-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Stock prices have               | a. index rose          |
| 2. The Dow Jones                   | b. 5G smartphone later |
| 3. the S&P 500 rose                | c. performer           |
| 4. the most-followed stock markets | d. well                |
| 5. Apple was a key                 | e. risen               |
| 6. Its stock went                  | f. 1.9 per cent        |
| 7. Apple will unveil its first     | g. up six per cent     |
| 8. Amazon also fared               | h. in the USA          |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. its best numbers            | a. oil prices      |
| 2. Investor confidence remains | b. skyrocketed     |
| 3. despite the economic        | c. responsible     |
| 4. tech companies are largely  | d. dropped         |
| 5. tech companies have proved  | e. damage caused   |
| 6. Their sales have            | f. in three months |
| 7. Their prices                | g. to be immune    |
| 8. crude                       | h. strong          |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201014-tech-stocks-4.html>

Stock prices have (1) \_\_\_\_\_ tech companies. The Dow Jones (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 353 points (or 1.2%) on Monday. The Nasdaq Composite advanced 2.9 per cent and the S&P 500 rose 1.9 per cent. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the most-followed stock markets in the USA. Apple was (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Its stock went up six per cent. This was (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Apple will unveil its first 5G smartphone later this week. Facebook and Amazon (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Wall Street saw (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in three months. Investor confidence remains strong, despite the economic (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the COVID-19 pandemic. Analysts say tech companies are largely responsible (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Most tech companies have proved to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the downturn. Their sales have skyrocketed (11) \_\_\_\_\_ at home more. Energy stocks were hit. Their prices dropped after a sudden fall in U.S. (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201014-tech-stocks-4.html>

Stock prices have risen because of tech companies. The Dow Jones index rose by 353 points (or 1.2%) on Monday. The Nasdaq Composite advanced 2.9 percent and the S&P 500 rose 1.9 percent. The three are the most-followed stock markets in the USA. Apple was a key performer. Its stock went up six percent. This was because investors think Apple will unveil its first 5G smartphone later this week. Facebook and Amazon also fared well. Wall Street saw its best numbers in three months. Investor confidence remains strong, despite the economic damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Analysts say tech companies are largely responsible for the confidence. Most tech companies have proved to be immune to the downturn. Their sales have skyrocketed as people stay at home more. Energy stocks were hit. Their prices dropped after a sudden fall in U.S. crude oil prices.

# TECHNOLOGY STOCKS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201014-tech-stocks-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about technology stocks 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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More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

