

## 2005 – the year ahead

### Level

Intermediate and above

### Tasks

Talking about any New Year's resolutions the students have made

Matching news items from 2004 to predictions for 2005

Discussing students' reactions to these predictions

Practising some words from the quotations

Making predictions for the coming year

### How to use the lesson

- 1 Write the phrase 'New Year's Resolution' on the board and get students to tell you what it means. Give examples of some of your own. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to note down a highlight from last year and any New Year's resolutions. Students work in pairs and compare their answers. Elicit some examples from the class.
- 2 Ask students to quickly read through the events in 2004 and match them to the appropriate predictions for 2005.

#### Answers

(1) – (f)      (2) – (d)      (3) – (h)      (4) – (c)  
 (5) – (a)      (6) – (b)      (7) – (e)      (8) – (g)

- 3 Ask students to read the predictions again and note down which ones they agree / disagree with. Go through each one and find out how many students agree / disagree and why. If appropriate, ask the students questions to clarify or add information about any of the events or predictions.
- 4 Ask students to complete the words and check the answers in class feedback. They should then try to create sentences using these words. Deal with any other vocabulary questions at this point.

Teacher's note: WTO – World Trade Organisation, IOC – International Olympic committee.

#### Answers

(a) to curb      (b) deficit      (c) to risk      (d) to level off      (e) to overheat

- 5 Divide the class into small groups. If necessary, write some headings on the board such as: *sport / company / energy / technology / economy* etc. Students come up with three (business-related) predictions for 2005 and present them to the class. Encourage the class to discuss whether or not they agree with each group's predictions.

### Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.btexact.com/>

<http://www.rff.org/>

<http://www.spacefuture.com/>

<http://www.iftf.org/>