

Merger mania

Level

Upper intermediate

Tasks

Identifying the industry sectors and countries of origin of particular companies

Reading an article about current mergers

Finding words in the article from their definitions

Discussing points arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Ask students to give an example of a merger. Hand out the worksheet and ask students which of the companies in the box they have heard of, which industry sectors they are in and what their countries of origin are. If some of them are unknown, let students know that they will be able to find the answers in the article.
- 2 Ask students to read the article and check their answers in 1. Ask students for any reactions to the information in the article.
- 3 Ask students to find words in the article from the definitions listed. Check that students know other forms of the words – e.g. *ratings* – *rate* (*v*); *stifle* – *stifling* (*adj*); etc – and can use them correctly.

Answers

converging (paragraph 1)

stake (paragraph 2)

ratings (paragraph 3)

stifle (paragraph 4)

- 4 Discuss their answers to the questions in groups, then report their ideas to the class. Hold a class feedback session.

Related websites

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

<http://www.yukos.com>

<http://www.sibneft.com>

<http://www.airfrance.com/us>

http://www.klm.com/nl_en/index.jsp

<http://www2.carlton.com/>

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