

# NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

## Asia stocks fall over Euro debt worries

**MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:**

[http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock\\_values.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock_values.html)

### IN THIS LESSON:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Multiple Choice	5
Spelling	6
Put the Text Back Together	7
Scrambled Sentences	8
Discussion	9
Writing	10
Homework	11

**ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.**

**11th August, 2011**

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock\\_values.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock_values.html)

The value of stocks and shares on Asian stock markets fell on Wednesday. This is because investors are worried about Europe's growing debt. They are also concerned that their economies are growing too slowly. Japan's Nikkei 225 index was down by 1.3% and Hong Kong's Hang Seng dropped by 1%. Many investors sold their shares in early trading. This was because of rumours that France might be the next country to lose its triple-A (AAA) credit rating. There is concern about how much Greek debt French banks have.

Fears in Asia are part of worldwide worries about a slowdown in the global economy. No one is sure of where the markets will go. Andrew Robinson of Saxo Capital Markets told the BBC: "We have had [changeable] markets in the past that have headed in one direction, but this time around, no one seems to know what is going to happen." This uncertainty is making Asians sell their shares and buy gold. On Thursday, the price of gold climbed above the \$1,800 per ounce mark for the first time ever.

# PHRASE MATCH

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock\\_values.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock_values.html)

## Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. The value of stocks and shares on Asian | a. too slowly         |
| 2. worried about Europe's                  | b. trading            |
| 3. economies are growing                   | c. rating             |
| 4. investors sold their shares in early    | d. stock markets fell |
| 5. lose its triple-A (AAA) credit          | e. banks have         |
| 6. how much Greek debt French              | f. growing debt       |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                      |                       |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. a slowdown in                     | a. will go            |
| 2. where the markets                 | b. sell their shares  |
| 3. headed in one                     | c. gold climbed       |
| 4. this time around, no one seems    | d. the global economy |
| 5. This uncertainty is making Asians | e. direction          |
| 6. the price of                      | f. to know            |

# LISTENING GAP FILL

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock\\_values.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock_values.html)

The \_\_\_\_\_ shares on Asian stock markets fell on Wednesday. This is because \_\_\_\_\_ about Europe's growing debt. They are also concerned that their economies are \_\_\_\_\_. Japan's Nikkei 225 index was down by 1.3% and Hong Kong's Hang Seng dropped by 1%. Many investors sold their shares \_\_\_\_\_. This was because of rumours that France might \_\_\_\_\_ to lose its triple-A (AAA) credit rating. There is \_\_\_\_\_ much Greek debt French banks have.

Fears in Asia are \_\_\_\_\_ worries about a slowdown in the global economy. No \_\_\_\_\_ where the markets will go. Andrew Robinson of Saxo Capital Markets told the BBC: "We have had [changeable] markets in the past that have \_\_\_\_\_ direction, but this time around, no one seems to know what is \_\_\_\_\_." This uncertainty is making Asians sell their \_\_\_\_\_. On Thursday, the price of gold climbed above the \$1,800 per ounce \_\_\_\_\_ time ever.

# MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock\\_values.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock_values.html)

The (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of stocks and shares on Asian stock markets fell on Wednesday. This is because investors are worried about Europe's (2) \_\_\_\_\_ debt. They are also concerned that their economies are growing too slowly. Japan's Nikkei 225 index was down (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 1.3% and Hong Kong's Hang Seng dropped by 1%. Many investors sold their shares in (4) \_\_\_\_\_ trading. This was because (5) \_\_\_\_\_ rumours that France might be the next country to lose its triple-A (AAA) credit rating. There is concern about how much Greek debt French banks (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Fears in Asia are part of worldwide (7) \_\_\_\_\_ about a slowdown in the global economy. No one is sure of where the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ will go. Andrew Robinson of Saxo Capital Markets told the BBC: "We have had [changeable] markets in the past that have (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in one direction, but this time around, no one seems to know what is going to happen." This (10) \_\_\_\_\_ is making Asians sell their shares and (11) \_\_\_\_\_ gold. On Thursday, the price of gold climbed (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the \$1,800 per ounce mark for the first time ever.

## Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |               |              |                 |
|-----|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) valued    | (b) value    | (c) valuer      |
| 2.  | (a) growth    | (b) growing  | (c) grown       |
| 3.  | (a) by        | (b) for      | (c) up          |
| 4.  | (a) fast      | (b) before   | (c) early       |
| 5.  | (a) of        | (b) by       | (c) at          |
| 6.  | (a) do        | (b) be       | (c) have        |
| 7.  | (a) worry     | (b) worries  | (c) worried     |
| 8.  | (a) markets   | (b) shops    | (c) malls       |
| 9.  | (a) faced     | (b) headed   | (c) backed      |
| 10. | (a) uncertain | (b) not sure | (c) uncertainty |
| 11. | (a) buy       | (b) make     | (c) invests     |
| 12. | (a) below     | (b) for      | (c) above       |

# SPELLING

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock\\_values.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock_values.html)

**Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.**

## Paragraph 1

1. The leavu of stocks and shares
2. vnrssieo are worried
3. economies are rgiwgon too slowly
4. in early rnidgta
5. tlpier-A (AAA) credit rating
6. There is nrcenoc

## Paragraph 2

7. part of worldwide oerswir
8. a oolnwwds in the global economy
9. dheead in one direction
10. what is going to naehpp
11. This tcnunryaite is making Asians sell
12. the price of gold ciembdl

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock\\_values.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock_values.html)

## Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) too slowly. Japan's Nikkei 225 index was down by 1.3% and Hong Kong's Hang Seng dropped
- ( ) BBC: "We have had [changeable] markets in the past that have headed in one direction, but this time
- ( **1** ) The value of stocks and shares on Asian stock markets fell on Wednesday. This is because investors
- ( ) climbed above the \$1,800 per ounce mark for the first time ever.
- ( ) rating. There is concern about how much Greek debt French banks have.
- ( ) of rumours that France might be the next country to lose its triple-A (AAA) credit
- ( ) making Asians sell their shares and buy gold. On Thursday, the price of gold
- ( ) around, no one seems to know what is going to happen." This uncertainty is
- ( ) economy. No one is sure of where the markets will go. Andrew Robinson of Saxo Capital Markets told the
- ( ) Fears in Asia are part of worldwide worries about a slowdown in the global
- ( ) by 1%. Many investors sold their shares in early trading. This was because
- ( ) are worried about Europe's growing debt. They are also concerned that their economies are growing

# WORD JUMBLE

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock\\_values.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1108/110811-stock_values.html)

**With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.**

1. markets The value on shares and stocks of Asian stock.

---

2. Europe's about worried are Investors debt growing.

---

3. are Concerned growing that too their slowly economies.

---

4. sold Investors trading early in shares their.

---

5. Greek much How have banks French debt.

---

6. about global a economy slowdown in Worries the.

---

7. is sure of where the markets will go No one.

---

8. the had past changeable markets We in have.

---

9. making is Uncertainty shares their sell Asians.

---

10. Gold mark ounce per 800 , 1 \$ the above climbed.

---

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

### **STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © www.NewsEnglishLessons.com

---

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

### **STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_



# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. STOCKS AND SHARES:** Search the Internet and find more information about stocks and shares. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about stocks and shares. Include imaginary interviews with Asian investors. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to a stock market expert. Ask him/her three questions about stocks and shares. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.