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## China's super-rich get "poorer"

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

[http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super\\_rich.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super_rich.html)

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

**26th September, 2012**

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super\\_rich.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super_rich.html)

Many of China's richest people have become poorer in the past year. This is what the Chinese business magazine "Hurun" says in its latest "[China Rich List](#)" report. The magazine said China had 251 people worth \$1 billion or more. This is 20 billionaires fewer than last year, but still a lot more than in 2006, when there were just 15. "Hurun" reports that almost half of the 1,000 richest people in China saw their wealth go down in the past 12 months. The biggest reason for this is the fall in property prices.

The "Hurun Report" says there are currently 960,000 'millionaires' in China. Of these, 70 per cent are men and 30 per cent are women. A Chinese millionaire has 10 million Yuan or more. This is the same as \$1.5 million, £950,000 or €1.1 million. He or she is an average age of 39, which is 15 years younger than Western millionaires. The report said: "These super-rich tend to own three properties, five luxury watches and four cars." It added: "There has been a surge of interest in drinking fine wines and collecting art."

# PHRASE MATCH

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super\\_rich.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super_rich.html)

## Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. China's richest people have | a. \$1 billion       |
| 2. 251 people worth            | b. 12 months         |
| 3. 20 billionaires fewer       | c. more than in 2006 |
| 4. still a lot                 | d. property prices   |
| 5. in the past                 | e. become poorer     |
| 6. the fall in                 | f. than last year    |

### Paragraph 2

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. there are currently     | a. fine wines             |
| 2. This is the same        | b. of interest            |
| 3. He or she is an average | c. art                    |
| 4. There has been a surge  | d. 960,000 'millionaires' |
| 5. drinking                | e. age of 39              |
| 6. collecting              | f. as \$1.5 million       |

# LISTENING GAP FILL

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super\\_rich.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super_rich.html)

Many of China's richest people (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in the past year. This is what the Chinese business magazine "Hurun" (2) \_\_\_\_\_ "China Rich List" report. The magazine said China had 251 people (3) \_\_\_\_\_ or more. This is 20 billionaires fewer than last year, but still a lot more than in 2006, when (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 15. "Hurun" reports that (5) \_\_\_\_\_ 1,000 richest people in China saw their wealth go down in the past 12 months. The biggest reason (6) \_\_\_\_\_ fall in property prices.

The "Hurun Report" says (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 960,000 'millionaires' in China. Of these, 70 per cent are men and 30 per cent are women. A Chinese millionaire has 10 million Yuan or more. This (8) \_\_\_\_\_ \$1.5 million, £950,000 or €1.1 million. He or she (9) \_\_\_\_\_ age of 39, which (10) \_\_\_\_\_ than Western millionaires. The report said: "These super-rich (11) \_\_\_\_\_ three properties, five luxury watches and four cars." It added: "There has been a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ in drinking fine wines and collecting art."

# MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super\\_rich.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super_rich.html)

Many of China's richest people (1) \_\_\_\_\_ become poorer in the past year. This is what the Chinese business magazine "Hurun" says in its (2) \_\_\_\_\_ "China Rich List" report. The magazine said China had 251 people worth \$1 billion or (3) \_\_\_\_\_. This is 20 billionaires (4) \_\_\_\_\_ than last year, but still a lot more than in 2006, when there were just 15. "Hurun" reports that almost half of the 1,000 richest people in China (5) \_\_\_\_\_ their wealth go down in the past 12 months. The biggest reason for this is the fall (6) \_\_\_\_\_ property prices.

The "Hurun Report" says there are (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 960,000 'millionaires' in China. Of (8) \_\_\_\_\_, 70 per cent are men and 30 per cent are women. A Chinese millionaire has 10 million Yuan or more. This is the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ as \$1.5 million, £950,000 or €1.1 million. He or she is an average (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of 39, which is 15 years younger than Western millionaires. The report said: "These super-rich tend to (11) \_\_\_\_\_ three properties, five luxury watches and four cars." It added: "There has been a surge of interest in drinking (12) \_\_\_\_\_ wines and collecting art."

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

- |     |              |              |               |
|-----|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) have     | (b) are      | (c) do        |
| 2.  | (a) lately   | (b) late     | (c) latest    |
| 3.  | (a) many     | (b) more     | (c) most      |
| 4.  | (a) smaller  | (b) fewer    | (c) less      |
| 5.  | (a) saw      | (b) looked   | (c) viewed    |
| 6.  | (a) on       | (b) in       | (c) at        |
| 7.  | (a) currency | (b) currants | (c) currently |
| 8.  | (a) these    | (b) them     | (c) they      |
| 9.  | (a) equal    | (b) same     | (c) alike     |
| 10. | (a) years    | (b) old      | (c) age       |
| 11. | (a) own      | (b) live     | (c) private   |
| 12. | (a) OK       | (b) well     | (c) fine      |

# SPELLING

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super\\_rich.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super_rich.html)

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

## Paragraph 1

1. China's rthcesi people
2. business eanigmza
3. people orwht \$1 billion
4. rewfe than last year
5. The biggest esaron for this
6. the fall in eppyrotr prices

## Paragraph 2

7. there are enylutrrc 960,000
8. A Chinese lomialeirn
9. an ervaaeg age of 39
10. xruuly watches
11. There has been a surge of etnistr
12. tceinllgco art

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super\\_rich.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1209/120926-super_rich.html)

## Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) 251 people worth \$1 billion or more. This is 20 billionaires fewer than
- ( ) tend to own three properties, five luxury watches and four cars." It added:
- ( ) The "Hurun Report" says there are currently 960,000 'millionaires' in China. Of these,
- ( **1** ) Many of China's richest people have become poorer in the past year. This is what the Chinese
- ( ) "There has been a surge of interest in drinking fine wines and collecting art."
- ( ) business magazine "Hurun" says in its latest "China Rich List" report. The magazine said China had
- ( ) 70 per cent are men and 30 per cent are women. A Chinese millionaire has 10 million Yuan or more. This is the
- ( ) half of the 1,000 richest people in China saw their wealth go down in the past
- ( ) 12 months. The biggest reason for this is the fall in property prices.
- ( ) last year, but still a lot more than in 2006, when there were just 15. "Hurun" reports that almost
- ( ) age of 39, which is 15 years younger than Western millionaires. The report said: "These super-rich
- ( ) same as \$1.5 million, £950,000 or €1.1 million. He or she is an average

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. people richest poorer China's become of have Many.

---

2. \$1 had 251 billion people worth China.

---

3. This than is last 20 year billionaires fewer.

---

4. in people richest 1,000 the of half Almost China.

---

5. the is This prices property in fall.

---

6. 'millionaires' in China There are currently 960,000.

---

7. millionaire million more Chinese 10 or A has Yuan.

---

8. is age she average 39 or an of He.

---

9. three These rich own - to properties super tend.

---

10. surge fine of wines interest in A drinking.

---



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

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

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

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## **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. SUPER RICH:** Search the Internet and find more information about the super rich. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about super-rich people. Include an imaginary interview with one. 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 super-rich expert. Ask him/her three questions about being super-rich. Give him/her three of your opinions on being so wealthy. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.