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Level 2 – 5th August, 2020

Microsoft could buy TikTok next month

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200805-tiktok-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200805-tiktok-2.html>

The on-off talks between Microsoft and TikTok are back on again. Microsoft wants to buy part of TikTok. The tech giant has been in talks with TikTok's parent company ByteDance Ltd. Their discussions came to a halt last week when US President Donald Trump suggested that he might ban TikTok from the USA. He was worried that the personal details of Americans could get into the wrong hands. He changed his mind after the Microsoft CEO phoned him. Microsoft said it "would ensure that all private data of TikTok's American users is transferred to and remains in the United States."

TikTok is the latest social media site to become hugely popular. Users upload short videos of themselves lip-syncing to well-known songs, dancing, making faces or doing other funny things. TikTok's owner ByteDance is based in Beijing. It was founded in 2012 by a Chinese entrepreneur. It now has over 800 million users worldwide. Microsoft is offering ByteDance \$50 billion for a part in the company. However the business website Bloomberg disagrees with this value. It said: "The idea that TikTok - without...emerging markets - is worth \$50 billion today is fanciful."

Sources: <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2020-08-03/tiktok-could-be-the-deal-of-the-decade-for-microsoft-ceo-nadella>
<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/08/03/microsoft-confirms-talks-to-buy-tiktok-in-us.html>
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2020/08/02/tiktok-ban-microsoft-negotiating-purchase-video-app/5568778002/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200805-tiktok-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The on-off | a. part of TikTok |
| 2. back on | b. details |
| 3. Microsoft wants to buy | c. data |
| 4. The tech | d. again |
| 5. discussions came to | e. mind |
| 6. personal | f. giant |
| 7. He changed his | g. a halt last week |
| 8. private | h. talks |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. become hugely | a. in the company |
| 2. lip-syncing to well- | b. Chinese entrepreneur |
| 3. founded in 2012 by a | c. markets |
| 4. It now has over 800 million | d. popular |
| 5. Microsoft is offering ByteDance | e. with this value |
| 6. for a part | f. known songs |
| 7. Bloomberg disagrees | g. \$50 billion |
| 8. emerging | h. users worldwide |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200805-tiktok-2.html>

(1) _____ between Microsoft and TikTok are back on again. Microsoft wants to (2) _____ TikTok. The tech giant has been in talks with TikTok's parent company ByteDance Ltd. Their discussions came (3) _____ last week when US President Donald Trump suggested that he might ban TikTok from the USA. He (4) _____ the personal details of Americans could get into the wrong hands. He (5) _____ after the Microsoft CEO phoned him. Microsoft said it "would ensure that all private data of TikTok's American users is transferred (6) _____ in the United States."

TikTok is the (7) _____ site to become hugely popular. Users (8) _____ of themselves lip-syncing to well-known songs, dancing, (9) _____ doing other funny things. TikTok's owner ByteDance is based in Beijing. It was founded in 2012 by a Chinese entrepreneur. It now has over 800 (10) _____. Microsoft is offering ByteDance \$50 billion for (11) _____ the company. However the business website Bloomberg disagrees with this value. It said: "The idea that TikTok - (12) _____ - is worth \$50 billion today is fanciful.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200805-tiktok-2.html>

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TIKTOK SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200805-tiktok-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about TikTok 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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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

