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## **Level 5**

# **China tops US at box office for first time**

**5th March, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150305-box-office-5.html>

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**Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150305-box-office-5.html>

China's box office has beaten the USA's for the first time. China's movie theatres are now the world's most lucrative. This is because millions of people went to cinemas across China during the nation's New Year celebrations in February. Sales were boosted by Valentine's Day, which is becoming more popular in China. China's box office made a record \$650 million in February, compared to \$640 million in the USA. The biggest hit in China was a movie called The Man From Macau II, which grossed \$650 million. The new Jackie Chan film took second spot, earning \$95 million.

China's film industry is growing extremely fast. There are more middle-class people, which means more new cinemas are opening. People are moving from the countryside to cities, creating demand for more cinema screens. There are fifteen new screens every day, adding to the current total of 23,600 screens. This is 475 per cent more than in 2008. China will one day overtake America's 40,000 screens. China's movie industry has experienced year-on-year growth of 27 per cent and 36 per cent in the past two years. Much of this success has been without big Hollywood movies.

Sources: <http://news.sky.com/story/1436992/china-box-office-overtakes-us-for-first-time>  
<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/china-box-office-tops-us-778499>  
<http://www.theguardian.com/film/2015/mar/02/chinese-box-office-biggest-world-february>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150305-box-office-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. China's box office has    | a. took second spot     |
| 2. now the world's most      | b. hit in China         |
| 3. Sales were boosted        | c. \$95 million         |
| 4. becoming more             | d. record \$650 million |
| 5. China's box office made a | e. beaten the USA's     |
| 6. The biggest               | f. popular in China     |
| 7. The new Jackie Chan film  | g. lucrative            |
| 8. earning                   | h. by Valentine's Day   |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. China's film industry is growing | a. total             |
| 2. There are more middle-           | b. opening           |
| 3. more new cinemas are             | c. growth            |
| 4. moving from the countryside      | d. more than in 2008 |
| 5. adding to the current            | e. class people      |
| 6. This is 475 per cent             | f. to cities         |
| 7. year-on-year                     | g. success           |
| 8. Much of this                     | h. extremely fast    |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150305-box-office-5.html>

China's box (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the USA's for the first time. China's movie theatres are now the world's (2) \_\_\_\_\_. This is because millions of people went to cinemas across China during the nation's New Year celebrations in February. Sales (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Valentine's Day, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ more popular in China. China's box office (5) \_\_\_\_\_ \$650 million in February, compared to \$640 million in the USA. The biggest hit in China was a movie called The Man From Macau II, which grossed \$650 million. The new Jackie Chan film (6) \_\_\_\_\_, earning \$95 million.

China's film industry is growing (7) \_\_\_\_\_. There are more middle-class people, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ new cinemas are opening. People are moving from the countryside to cities, creating demand for more cinema screens. There are fifteen (9) \_\_\_\_\_ day, adding to the current total of 23,600 screens. This is 475 per cent more than in 2008. China (10) \_\_\_\_\_ overtake America's 40,000 screens. China's movie industry has experienced (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of 27 per cent and 36 per cent in the past two years. Much (12) \_\_\_\_\_ has been without big Hollywood movies.

# MOVIE THEATRES SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150305-box-office-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about movie theatres 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) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

*China tops US at box office for first time - 5th March, 2015*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

# FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150305-box-office-5.html>

Write about **movie theatres** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

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