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**Level 3 – 18th January 2024**

## World will see first trillionaire in next 10 years

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

A famous song and a quiz show ask, "Who wants to be a millionaire?" For decades, having a million dollars was the goal of the super-rich. Now, the goal is a billion dollars. The anti-poverty charity Oxfam has just issued a report that says in the next ten years, the world will have its first trillionaire. A trillion is a huge number and an unbelievable amount of money. It is a one, followed by 12 zeros. A trillion is equal to one million million. The charity said the wealth gap between the rich and poor is growing. It said the gap has been "supercharged" since the coronavirus pandemic. It added: "We will have a trillionaire within a decade, whereas to fight poverty, we need more than 200 years."

Oxfam spoke about inequality at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting. As an example, it said the world's five richest people have seen their wealth increase by 114 per cent since 2020. A charity spokesperson said: "The top five billionaires have doubled their wealth. On the other hand, almost five billion people have become poorer." Tesla CEO Elon Musk is the richest man on the planet. He has a personal fortune of just under \$250 billion. The AP news agency said: "If someone does reach that trillion-dollar milestone, he or she would have the same value as oil-rich Saudi Arabia." Oxfam said the world is now at the start of a "decade of division". It called for a "new era of public action" to reduce the wealth gap.

Sources: <https://apnews.com/article/income-inequality-billionaires-davos-85baf23e9a2a7d4d94da5aca11f3ca5e>  
<https://time.com/6555516/first-trillionaire-oxfam-report-billionaire-inequality/>  
<https://news.sky.com/story/worlds-richest-men-double-their-wealth-in-three-years-as-oxfam-warns-of-first-trillionaire-13048652>

# WARM-UPS

**1. TRILLIONAIRES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about trillionaires. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

famous song / quiz show / millionaire / goal / money / wealth gap / pandemic / gap / inequality / annual meeting / poor / the planet / personal fortune / decade / division

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. EVIL:** Students A **strongly** believe the saying 'money is the root of all evil' is true; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. SUPER RICH:** How would being super rich help you with these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How It Would Help
English	
Friends	
Hobbies	
Looks	
Lifestyle	
Love	

**5. POVERTY:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "poverty". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. SHOPPING:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to buy with a trillion dollars at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- A tropical island
- A castle in the UK
- Gold and diamonds
- A jet plane
- A luxury yacht
- A tech company
- Lots of chocolate
- Love

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 1. quiz    | a. Very, very, very big.  |
| 2. decade  | b. A difference (sometimes an unwanted one) between two things.   |
| 3. poverty | c. A test of what people know, especially as a competition between people or teams.                         |
| 4. charity | d. A period of ten years.   |
| 5. huge    | e. An organization that helps to get money for people or things in need (poor people, hungry people, etc.). |
| 6. equal   | f. Being the same in quantity, size, degree, or value.  |
| 7. gap     | g. The state of being very, very, very poor.  |

## Paragraph 2

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 8. inequality | h. An important event in the development of something.                                |
| 9. annual     | i. Belonging to or affecting a particular person rather than anyone else.             |
| 10. wealth    | j. Made twice as large.   |
| 11. doubled   | k. The state of people not having the same status, rights or opportunities as others. |
| 12. personal  | l. Make smaller or less in amount, degree, or size.                                   |
| 13. milestone | m. Happening every year.  |
| 14. reduce    | n. All the money and things owned by a person, company or country.                    |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

## 1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. A well-known song asked about wanting to be a trillionaire. **T / F**
2. A trillion is a one, with 16 zeros after it. **T / F**
3. Coronavirus made the gap between the richest and poorest bigger. **T / F**
4. Oxfam said it would take 200 years to fight poverty. **T / F**
5. The top five richest people became \$114 billion richer last year. **T / F**
6. Five billion people in the world became richer last year. **T / F**
7. Elon Musk is worth around a quarter of a billion dollars. **T / F**
8. A news agency said a trillionaire would be as rich as Saudi Arabia. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. <b>famous</b>   | a. go up      |
| 2. <b>goal</b>     | b. released   |
| 3. <b>issued</b>   | c. yearly     |
| 4. <b>huge</b>     | d. very large |
| 5. <b>fight</b>    | e. beginning  |
| 6. <b>annual</b>   | f. well known |
| 7. <b>increase</b> | g. cut        |
| 8. <b>richest</b>  | h. tackle     |
| 9. <b>start</b>    | i. aim        |
| 10. <b>reduce</b>  | j. wealthiest |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. having a million dollars was the goal     | a. to one million million   |
| 2. The anti-poverty                          | b. gap                      |
| 3. A trillion is a huge                      | c. era of public action     |
| 4. A trillion is equal                       | d. charity Oxfam            |
| 5. the wealth gap between the rich and       | e. of division              |
| 6. He has a personal fortune of              | f. number                   |
| 7. have the same value as oil-               | g. just under \$250 billion |
| 8. the world is now at the start of a decade | h. of the super-rich        |
| 9. It called for a new                       | i. poor is growing          |
| 10. reduce the wealth                        | j. rich Saudi Arabia        |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

A famous song and a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ show ask, "Who wants to be a millionaire?" For decades, having a million dollars was the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the super-rich. Now, the goal is a billion dollars. The anti-poverty charity Oxfam has just issued a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ that says in the next ten years, the world will have its first trillionaire. A trillion is a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ number and an unbelievable amount of money. It is a one, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ by 12 zeros. A trillion is equal to one million million. The charity said the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ gap between the rich and poor is growing. It said the gap has been "supercharged" since the coronavirus (7) \_\_\_\_\_. It added: "We will have a trillionaire within a decade, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to fight poverty, we need more than 200 years."

*report*  
*followed*  
*whereas*  
*quiz*  
*pandemic*  
*goal*  
*huge*  
*wealth*

Oxfam spoke about (9) \_\_\_\_\_ at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting. As an example, it said the world's five richest people have seen their (10) \_\_\_\_\_ increase by 114 per cent since 2020. A charity spokesperson said: "The top five billionaires have (11) \_\_\_\_\_ their wealth. On the other hand, almost five billion people have become poorer." Tesla CEO Elon Musk is the richest man on the (12) \_\_\_\_\_. He has a personal fortune of just under \$250 billion. The AP news agency said: "If someone does (13) \_\_\_\_\_ that trillion-dollar milestone, he or she would have the same (14) \_\_\_\_\_ as oil-rich Saudi Arabia." Oxfam said the world is now at the start of a "decade of (15) \_\_\_\_\_. It called for a "new era of public action" to (16) \_\_\_\_\_ the wealth gap.

*planet*  
*wealth*  
*division*  
*reach*  
*inequality*  
*reduce*  
*doubled*  
*value*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

- 1) For decades, having a million dollars \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. was the goals
  - b. was the goal
  - c. was the goalie
  - d. was the gall
- 2) The anti-poverty charity Oxfam has just \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. issued a report
  - b. issued a reap port
  - c. issued a rip port
  - d. issued a reports
- 3) A trillion is a huge number and an unbelievable \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. amounts of money
  - b. a mount of money
  - c. a mint of money
  - d. amount of money
- 4) The charity said the wealth gap between the rich and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. poor is growth
  - b. poor is growl
  - c. poor is growling
  - d. poor is growing
- 5) We will have a trillionaire within a decade, whereas \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to blight poverty
  - b. to flight poverty
  - c. to fight poverty
  - d. to fright poverty
- 6) Oxfam spoke about inequality at the World Economic \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Forum's annually meeting
  - b. Forum's annul meeting
  - c. Forum's annual meeting
  - d. Forum's renewal meeting
- 7) the world's five richest people have seen their wealth increase by 114 per \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. sent sins 2020
  - b. cent since 2020
  - c. cent cents 2020
  - d. sent since 2020
- 8) The top five billionaires have \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. doubled their wealth
  - b. doubled their wealthy
  - c. doubled their welt
  - d. doubled their weal
- 9) he or she would have the same value as oil- \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. ditch Saudi Arabia
  - b. hitch Saudi Arabia
  - c. stitch Saudi Arabia
  - d. rich Saudi Arabia
- 10) Oxfam said the world is now at the start of a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. decade of subtraction
  - b. decade of division
  - c. decade of multiplication
  - d. decade of addition

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

A famous song and a (1) \_\_\_\_\_, "Who wants to be a millionaire?" For decades, having a million dollars was the goal (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Now, the goal is a billion dollars. The anti-poverty charity Oxfam has just issued a report that says in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ years, the world will have its first trillionaire. A trillion is a huge number and an unbelievable (4) \_\_\_\_\_. It is a one, followed by 12 zeros. A trillion is equal to one million million. The charity said the wealth gap between the rich and (5) \_\_\_\_\_. It said the gap has been "supercharged" since the coronavirus pandemic. It added: "We will have a trillionaire within a decade, whereas (6) \_\_\_\_\_, we need more than 200 years."

Oxfam spoke (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the World Economic Forum's annual meeting. As an example, it said the world's five richest people have seen their (8) \_\_\_\_\_ 114 per cent since 2020. A charity spokesperson said: "The top five billionaires have (9) \_\_\_\_\_. On the other hand, almost five billion people have become poorer." Tesla CEO Elon Musk is the richest man on the planet. He has a personal (10) \_\_\_\_\_ under \$250 billion. The AP news agency said: "If someone does reach that trillion-dollar milestone, he or she would have the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ oil-rich Saudi Arabia." Oxfam said the world is now at the start of a "decade of division". It called for a "(12) \_\_\_\_\_ public action" to reduce the wealth gap.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

1. What two things ask who wants to be a millionaire?
2. What is the goal for today's super-rich?
3. How many zeros follows the one in one trillion?
4. What does Oxfam say is happening to the gap between rich and poor?
5. How long did Oxfam say it would take to fight poverty?
6. By how much did the wealth of the world's richest five people go up?
7. How many people have become poorer?
8. How much is the personal fortune of Elon Musk?
9. What might a trillionaire be as valuable as?
10. What does Oxfam want to reduce with public action?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

- 1) What two things ask who wants to be a millionaire?
  - a) the super-rich and a charity
  - b) Oxfam and a rich person
  - c) a quiz show and a singer
  - d) a famous song and a quiz show
- 2) What is the goal for today's super-rich?
  - a) buying a private jet
  - b) a billion dollars
  - c) to be the richest person
  - d) to live to be 100
- 3) How many zeros follows the one in one trillion?
  - a) 16
  - b) 14
  - c) 10
  - d) 12
- 4) What does Oxfam say is happening to the gap between rich and poor?
  - a) very little
  - b) It's getting smaller.
  - c) It's growing.
  - d) No one knows.
- 5) How long did Oxfam say it would take to fight poverty?
  - a) 300 years
  - b) 100 years
  - c) 250 years
  - d) 200 years
- 6) By how much did the wealth of the world's richest five people go up?
  - a) by 116%
  - b) by 118%
  - c) by 114%
  - d) by 113%
- 7) How many people have become poorer?
  - a) almost five billion
  - b) exactly five billion
  - c) around five billion
  - d) just under five billion
- 8) How much is the personal fortune of Elon Musk?
  - a) around \$250 billion
  - b) exactly \$250 billion
  - c) almost \$250 billion
  - d) over \$250 billion
- 9) What might a trillionaire be as valuable as?
  - a) the USA
  - b) Saudi Arabia
  - c) all the gold in the world
  - d) 90% of the world
- 10) What does Oxfam want to reduce with public action?
  - a) the wealth gap
  - b) the decade of division
  - c) a new era
  - d) oil

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

## **Role A – A Tropical Island**

You think a tropical island is the best thing to buy with a trillion dollars. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these to buy (and why): gold, chocolate or love.

## **Role B – Gold**

You think gold is the best thing to buy with a trillion dollars. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these to buy (and why): tropical island, chocolate or love.

## **Role C – Chocolate**

You think chocolate is the best thing to buy with a trillion dollars. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these to buy (and why): gold, tropical island or love.

## **Role D – Love**

You think love is the best thing to buy with a trillion dollars. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these to buy (and why): gold, chocolate or tropical island.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'trillion' and 'poor'.

<b>trillion</b>	<b>poor</b>
-----------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• quiz</li><li>• goal</li><li>• huge</li><li>• equal</li><li>• growing</li><li>• 200</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• meeting</li><li>• increase</li><li>• doubled</li><li>• hand</li><li>• oil</li><li>• new</li></ul>
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# TRILLIONAIRES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

Write five GOOD questions about trillionaires 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.

# TRILLIONAIRES DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'trillionaire'?
3. What do you think of quiz shows?
4. What would life be like if you had \$1,000,000,000,000?
5. What do you think of the super-rich?
6. What is your goal in life?
7. What's the best way to get rich?
8. How can we make the wealth gap smaller?
9. How much tax should the super-rich pay?
10. Why do we have poverty in 2024?

*World will see first trillionaire in next 10 years – 18th January 2024*  
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# TRILLIONAIRES DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'poor'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What can we do about inequality?
15. What do you think of Elon Musk?
16. What would the world be like if we all had the same salary?
17. Will there ever be equality in the world?
18. What would you spend \$1 trillion on?
19. What public action is needed to reduce the wealth gap?
20. What questions would you like to ask a trillionaire?

# 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. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

A famous song and a quiz show (1) \_\_\_\_\_, "Who wants to be a millionaire?" For decades, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a million dollars was the goal of the super-rich. Now, the goal is a billion dollars. The anti-poverty charity Oxfam has just (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a report that says in the next ten years, the world will have its first trillionaire. A trillion is a huge number and an unbelievable amount of money. It is a one, followed (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 12 zeros. A trillion is equal to one million million. The charity said the wealth gap between the rich and poor is (5) \_\_\_\_\_. It said the gap has been "supercharged" since the coronavirus pandemic. It added: "We will have a trillionaire (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a decade, whereas to fight poverty, we need more than 200 years."

Oxfam spoke about inequality at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting. As an (7) \_\_\_\_\_, it said the world's five richest people have seen their wealth increase by 114 per cent since 2020. A charity spokesperson said: "The top five billionaires have (8) \_\_\_\_\_ their wealth. On the other (9) \_\_\_\_\_, almost five billion people have become poorer." Tesla CEO Elon Musk is the richest man on the planet. He has a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ fortune of just under \$250 billion. The AP news agency said: "If someone does reach that trillion-dollar milestone, he or she would have the same value (11) \_\_\_\_\_ oil-rich Saudi Arabia." Oxfam said the world is now at the start of a "decade of division". It called for a "new (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of public action" to reduce the wealth gap.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                 |              |                |             |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1.  | (a) order       | (b) tell     | (c) ask        | (d) voice   |
| 2.  | (a) having      | (b) has      | (c) had        | (d) have    |
| 3.  | (a) issued      | (b) felled   | (c) timed      | (d) system  |
| 4.  | (a) by          | (b) of       | (c) on         | (d) at      |
| 5.  | (a) growth      | (b) grows    | (c) grown      | (d) growing |
| 6.  | (a) wither      | (b) without  | (c) with       | (d) within  |
| 7.  | (a) example     | (b) sample   | (c) exit       | (d) ample   |
| 8.  | (a) dual        | (b) twice    | (c) twice      | (d) doubled |
| 9.  | (a) hand        | (b) head     | (c) knee       | (d) elbow   |
| 10. | (a) personality | (b) personal | (c) personally | (d) person  |
| 11. | (a) has         | (b) as       | (c) was        | (d) is      |
| 12. | (a) era         | (b) ore      | (c) roe        | (d) are     |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. A famous song and a uqzi show
2. an unbelievable untmoa of money
3. A trillion is qlaue to one million million
4. the talhwe gap
5. since the coronavirus emicnpda
6. fight orveytp

## Paragraph 2

7. Inuaan meeting
8. A hyricat spokesperson
9. billionaires have bddoule
10. the richest man on the pnetaI
11. the same eluva as oil-rich Saudi Arabia
12. a dadece of division

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) start of a "decade of division". It called for a "new era of public action" to reduce the wealth gap.
- ( ) that trillion-dollar milestone, he or she would have the same value as oil-rich Saudi Arabia." Oxfam said the world is now at the
- ( ) a million dollars was the goal of the super-rich. Now, the goal is a billion dollars. The anti-poverty charity Oxfam has just
- ( ) number and an unbelievable amount of money. It is a one, followed by 12 zeros. A trillion is equal
- ( **1** ) A famous song and a quiz show ask, "Who wants to be a millionaire?" For decades, having
- ( ) planet. He has a personal fortune of just under \$250 billion. The AP news agency said: "If someone does reach
- ( ) pandemic. It added: "We will have a trillionaire within a decade, whereas to fight poverty, we need more than 200 years."
- ( ) growing. It said the gap has been "supercharged" since the coronavirus
- ( ) 2020. A charity spokesperson said: "The top five billionaires have doubled their wealth. On the other
- ( ) hand, almost five billion people have become poorer." Tesla CEO Elon Musk is the richest man on the
- ( ) example, it said the world's five richest people have seen their wealth increase by 114 per cent since
- ( ) issued a report that says in the next ten years, the world will have its first trillionaire. A trillion is a huge
- ( ) Oxfam spoke about inequality at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting. As an
- ( ) to one million million. The charity said the wealth gap between the rich and poor is

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

1. was a million goal . dollars decades, For the
2. its will world The have first soon trillionaire .
3. trillion equal is million . to one million A
4. The has gap the been pandemic . "supercharged" since
5. fight years . over we need poverty To 200
6. richest wealth have people their The seen increase .
7. top billionaires their wealth . doubled five have The
8. the value as Saudi oil-rich Have same Arabia .
9. a At decade of the of division . start
10. era of for called It public an action .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

A famous song and a quiz show *asking / ask*, "Who wants to be a millionaire?" For decades, *have / having* a million dollars was the goal of the super-rich. Now, the goal is a billion dollars. The anti-poverty *charitable / charity* Oxfam has just issued a report that says in the *next / future* ten years, the world will have its first trillionaire. A trillion is a *huge / hugely* number and an unbelievable amount of money. It is a one, followed *after / by* 12 zeros. A trillion is *equal / equals* to one million million. The charity said the wealth gap between the *rich / wealth* and poor is growing. It said the gap has been "supercharged" *since / for* the coronavirus pandemic. It added: "We will have a trillionaire within a decade, *whereas / as* to fight poverty, we need more than 200 years."

Oxfam spoke about inequality at the World Economic Forum's *year / annual* meeting. As an example, it said the world's five *richly / richest* people have *seen / looked* their wealth increase by 114 per cent since 2020. A charity spokesperson said: "The top five billionaires have *doubling / doubled* their wealth. On the other *foot / hand*, almost five billion people have become poorer." Tesla CEO Elon Musk is the richest man *on / in* the planet. He has a personal fortune of *just / justly* under \$250 billion. The AP news agency said: "If someone does reach *what / that* trillion-dollar milestone, he or she would have the same value *as / has* oil-rich Saudi Arabia." Oxfam said the world is now at the start *of / at* a "decade of division". It called for a "new era of public action" to reduce the wealth gap.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

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\_ f\_m\_\_s s\_ng \_nd \_ q\_\_z sh\_w \_sk, "Wh\_ w\_nts t\_ b\_ \_ m\_ll\_\_n\_\_r?" F\_r d\_c\_d\_s, h\_v\_ng \_ m\_ll\_\_n d\_ll\_rs w\_s th\_ g\_\_l \_f th\_ s\_p\_r-r\_ch. N\_w, th\_ g\_\_l \_s \_ b\_ll\_\_n d\_ll\_rs. Th\_ \_nt-p\_v\_rty ch\_r\_ty \_xf\_m h\_s j\_st \_ss\_\_d \_ r\_p\_rt th\_t s\_ys \_n th\_ n\_xt t\_n y\_\_rs, th\_ w\_rld w\_ll h\_v\_ \_ts f\_rst tr\_ll\_\_n\_\_r\_. \_ tr\_ll\_\_n \_s \_ h\_g\_ n\_mb\_r \_nd \_n \_nb\_l\_\_v\_b\_l\_\_m\_\_nt \_f m\_n\_y. \_t \_s \_ \_n\_, f\_ll\_w\_d by 12 z\_r\_s. \_ tr\_ll\_\_n \_s \_q\_\_l t\_ \_n\_ m\_ll\_\_n m\_ll\_\_n. Th\_ ch\_r\_ty s\_\_d th\_ w\_\_lth g\_p b\_tw\_\_n th\_ r\_ch \_nd p\_\_r \_s gr\_w\_ng. \_t s\_\_d th\_ g\_p h\_s b\_\_n "s\_p\_rch\_rg\_d" s\_nc\_ th\_ c\_r\_n\_v\_r\_s p\_nd\_m\_c. \_t \_dd\_d: "W\_ w\_ll h\_v\_ \_ tr\_ll\_\_n\_\_r\_ w\_th\_n \_ d\_c\_d\_, wh\_r\_\_s t\_ f\_ght p\_v\_rty, w\_ n\_\_d m\_r\_ th\_n 200 y\_\_rs."

\_xf\_m sp\_k\_ \_b\_\_t \_n\_q\_\_l\_ty \_t th\_ W\_rld \_c\_n\_m\_c F\_r\_m's \_nn\_\_l m\_\_t\_ng. \_s \_n \_x\_mpl\_, \_t s\_\_d th\_ w\_rld's f\_v\_ r\_ch\_st p\_\_pl\_ h\_v\_ s\_\_n th\_\_r w\_\_lth \_ncr\_\_s\_ by 114 p\_r c\_nt s\_nc\_ 2020. \_ ch\_r\_ty sp\_k\_sp\_rs\_n s\_\_d: "Th\_ t\_p f\_v\_ b\_ll\_\_n\_\_r\_s h\_v\_ d\_\_bl\_d th\_\_r w\_\_lth. \_n th\_ \_th\_r h\_nd, \_lm\_st f\_v\_ b\_ll\_\_n p\_\_pl\_ h\_v\_ b\_c\_m\_ p\_\_r\_r." T\_sl\_ C\_\_ \_l\_n M\_sk \_s th\_ r\_ch\_st m\_n \_n th\_ pl\_n\_t. H\_ h\_s \_ p\_rs\_n\_l f\_rt\_n\_ \_f j\_st \_nd\_r \$250 b\_ll\_\_n. Th\_ \_P n\_ws \_g\_ncy s\_\_d: "\_f s\_m\_\_n\_ d\_\_s r\_\_ch th\_t tr\_ll\_\_n-d\_ll\_r m\_l\_st\_n\_, h\_ \_r sh\_ w\_\_ld h\_v\_ th\_ s\_m\_ v\_l\_\_ \_s \_\_l-r\_ch S\_\_d \_r\_b\_\_." \_xf\_m s\_\_d th\_ w\_rld \_s n\_w \_t th\_ st\_rt \_f \_ "d\_c\_d\_ \_f d\_v\_s\_\_n". \_t c\_ll\_d f\_r \_ "n\_w \_r\_ \_f p\_b\_l\_c \_ct\_\_n" t\_ r\_d\_c\_ th\_ w\_\_lth g\_p.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

a famous song and a quiz show ask who wants to be a millionaire for decades having a million dollars was the goal of the superrich now the goal is a billion dollars the antipoverty charity oxfam has just issued a report that says in the next ten years the world will have its first trillionaire a trillion is a huge number and an unbelievable amount of money it is a one followed by 12 zeros a trillion is equal to one million million the charity said the wealth gap between the rich and poor is growing it said the gap has been supercharged since the coronavirus pandemic it added we will have a trillionaire within a decade whereas to fight poverty we need more than 200 years

oxfam spoke about inequality at the world economic forums annual meeting as an example it said the worlds five richest people have seen their wealth increase by 114 per cent since 2020 a charity spokesperson said the top five billionaires have doubled their wealth on the other hand almost five billion people have become poorer tesla ceo elon musk is the richest man on the planet he has a personal fortune of just under 250 billion the ap news agency said if someone does reach that trilliondollar milestone he or she would have the same value as oilrich saudi arabia oxfam said the world is now at the start of a decade of division it called for a new era of public action to reduce the wealth gap

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

A famous song and a quiz show ask, "Who wants to be a millionaire?" For decades, having a million dollars was the goal of the super-rich. Now, the goal is a billion dollars. The anti-poverty charity Oxfam has just issued a report that says in the next ten years, the world will have its first trillionaire. A trillion is a huge number and an unbelievable amount of money. It is a one, followed by 12 zeros. A trillion is equal to one million million. The charity said the wealth gap between the rich and poor is growing. It said the gap has been "supercharged" since the coronavirus pandemic. It added: "We will have a trillionaire within a decade, whereas to fight poverty, we need more than 200 years." Oxfam spoke about inequality at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting. As an example, it said the world's five richest people have seen their wealth increase by 114 percents since 2020. A charity spokesman said: "The top five billionaires have doubled their wealth. On the other hand, almost five billion people have become poorer." Tesla CEO Elon Musk is the richest man on the planet. He has a personal fortune of just under \$250 billion. The AP news agency said: "If someone does reach that trillion-dollar milestone, he or she would have the same value as oil-rich Saudi Arabia." Oxfam said the world is now at the start of a "decade of division". It called for a "new era of public action" to reduce the wealth gap.

# FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240118-trillionaire.html>

Write about **trillionaires** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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# 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. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. TRILLIONAIRES:** Make a poster about trillionaires. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. TAX:** Write a magazine article about making rich people pay much, much, much more tax. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. 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.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on the super-rich. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on what you would do if you were super-rich. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c    2. d    3. g    4. e    5. a    6. f    7. b  
8. k    9. m    10. n    11. j    12. i    13. h    14. l

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 F    3 T    4 T    5 F    6 F    7 T    8 T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. f	2. i	3. b	4. d	5. h
6. c	7. a	8. j	9. e	10. g

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A famous song and a quiz show
2. A billion dollars
3. Twelve
4. It's growing
5. 200 years
6. By 114%
7. Almost five billion
8. Just under \$250 billion
9. Saudi Arabia
10. The wealth gap

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. For decades, a million dollars was the goal.
2. The world will soon have its first trillionaire.
3. A trillion is equal to one million million.
4. The gap has been "supercharged" since the pandemic.
5. To fight poverty we need over 200 years.
6. The richest people have seen their wealth increase.
7. The top five billionaires have doubled their wealth.
8. Have the same value as oil-rich Saudi Arabia.
9. At the start of a decade of division.
10. It called for an era of public action.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. d    2. b    3. d    4. c    5. d    6. c    7. a    8. c    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)