



ENGLISCH

SERIE

ALPHA 1

LESEVERSTEHEN

KANDIDATIN
KANDIDAT

Nummer der Kandidatin / des Kandidaten

Name

Vorname

Datum der Prüfung

BEWERTUNG

Fachbereiche

Erreichte Punkte / Maximum

Task A

/ 12

Task B

/ 8

Task C

/ 5

Total

/ 25

EXPERTEN



Erlaubte Hilfsmittel: Wörterbuch in Papierform

Prüfungsdauer: ⌚ 30 Minuten

A (12 POINTS)

Read the following text and the instructions on the opposite page.

It's boom time for billionaires as gap widens

The world's richest people made record amounts of money last year, a report has found. The fortunes of billionaires rose by £1.3 trillion worldwide, almost 20 per cent, from booming stock markets and a huge increase in the number of Chinese super-rich. The figures will also increase worries about who has how much money, i.e. that some may have too much and others too little.

Globally 2,158 billionaires owned £3.2 billion on average last year, up from £2.9 billion in 2016. The report found that the fortunes of the super-rich now do even better than in the "Gilded Age" (golden age) at the beginning of the 20th century, when John D. Rockefeller became the world's first billionaire. "The past 30 years have seen far greater wealth growth than the Gilded Age," the report said.

Chinese billionaires have increased their wealth at nearly twice the rate of western ones. Two billionaires are being created in China every week, the report found. Female billionaires remain in a small minority, making up 11 per cent. They include the youngest billionaires, the Norwegian Andresen sisters, who inherited large parts of their father's industry, finance and real estate business.

Anthony Shorrocks, an economist, said that the speed of wealth growth of billionaires had never been faster. He said it was much easier to make fortunes these days than it had ever been in the past. "It's certainly quite clear that a lot of the younger self-made billionaires are in industries that involve very little fixed costs because they have to do with the internet or financial services," he added.

He compared Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of Facebook, with the industrialist Henry Ford. "For Ford to increase his wealth, he had to build factories, he had to move to different countries, he had to set up



Johan Andresen gave a chunk of his fortune to his daughters, Katharina, 23, centre, and Alexandra, 22

a service network, and all these things take a lot of time and money. If you're Facebook, it takes almost no time and zero cost to set up in another country." The increase of wealth at the top end is creating multigenerational families like the Rockefellers and Rothschilds of the 19th century, the report's authors suggest. The 30 wealthiest individuals over the age of 70 have accumulated \$70 billion between them. "The calculation is simple," the report said. "There are 701 billionaires over the age of 70, whose wealth will go to their children and foundations over the next 20 years, given the average life expectancy."

Among billionaires who inherit a business, almost two thirds become entrepreneurs themselves. It is hardly true that children who inherit often waste a fortune. "It's the opposite. They would feel ashamed not to be entrepreneurs themselves." Carlotta Balestra, a policy analyst at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), said that the billionaires' wealth had caused worries about inequality and that wealth inequality had been increasing in Britain and the United States since the 2008 financial crisis. That crisis had been caused by "falling real estate prices after the recession and fewer people owning homes as well as higher values for financial assets during the recovery, which benefited those at the top". She said the report showed that "there has never before been so much wealth concentrated in the pockets of so few".

Tick the best answer – A, B or C.

1. **One reason why billionaires' fortunes rose by £1.3 trillion was ...**
A an almost 20% increase in the number of Chinese super rich.
B a very high rise in the stock markets.
C an increase in concerns.

2. **The report found that ...**
A billionaires owned a minimum of £2.9 billion in 2016.
B Mr Rockefeller was given a lot of money at the beginning of the 20th century.
C fortunes now grow faster than in the "Gilded Age".

3. **The figures show that ...**
A Chinese billionaires own double the money compared to those in the west.
B the Norwegian sisters Andresen belong to a minority group of billionaires.
C the Andresens' father was also active in the car part industry.

4. **The economist Anthony Shorrocks says that ...**
A the character of some modern industries makes fast fortunes possible.
B the type of Ford's business was similar to Zuckerberg's.
C setting up a network like Facebook overseas takes a lot of time and money.

5. **The authors of the report suggest that ...**
A a large number of children will get billions within twenty years.
B most rich kids waste the fortunes they have from their parents.
C many children feel ashamed of receiving such a lot of money.

6. **An OECD analyst said that ...**
A this growth of fortunes is not a problem regarding equality.
B dropping house prices was a major reason for the 2008 financial crisis.
C higher values of assets caused the 2008 crisis.

B (8 POINTS)

Read the article below. Choose the best expression (A, B or C) to fill each gap. For each answer, put the correct letter on the line on the right.



The strong robot with the gentle touch

By Victoria Woollaston

Scientists from Japan have developed a new nursing care robot, ROBEAR, which will encourage researchers to continue in their efforts to create the perfect robot nurse.

The new ROBEAR robot is lighter **1** its older models, weighing just 140 kilograms compared to their 230 kilograms, and it has a number of features that let it **2** force in a gentle way.

Specifically, it allows the joints to move **3** and with high precision. Moreover, it feeds back data very fast and thus makes softer movement possible. It also has three types of sensors, which allow for gentle movements, making sure that the robot can **4** difficult tasks such as lifting patients without putting them at risk.

The robot also improves on older models by having a small base, making the total system less heavy. It **5** falling over through the use of feet that can be made longer when necessary for lifting a patient, but pulled back in again to help the robot move through tight spaces such as doorways.

With its rapidly increasing elderly **6**, Japan faces an urgent need for new ways of assisting care-giving personnel. One of the hardest tasks for such personnel, carried out an average of 40 times every day, is that of lifting a patient from a bed into a wheelchair, and this is a major cause of back pain. Robots are well-suited to this task, but none **7** been used in care-giving facilities yet.

Toshiharu Mukai, leader of the Robot Sensor Systems Research Team, says, “We really hope that this robot **8** lead to progress in nursing care, helping the care-givers. But of course we will continue to do research and work to improve our robot even more.”

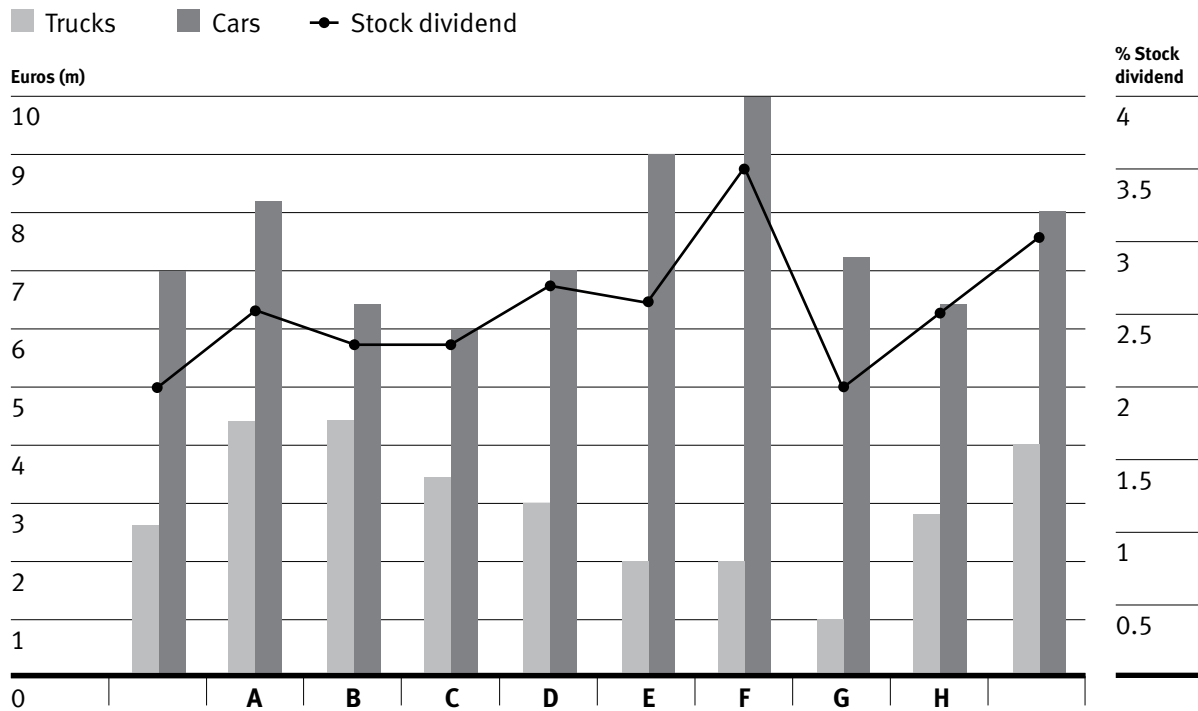
Adapted from dailymail.co.uk, 24 February 2015

Put your letter here ↓

1	A as	B of	C than	.....
2	A use	B to use	C using	.....
3	A quick	B quicker	C quickly	.....
4	A fill	B perform	C make	.....
5	A avoids	B may not	C prevents	.....
6	A women	B country	C population	.....
7	A was	B were	C have	.....
8	A will	B is going to	C will be	.....

C (5 POINTS)

Look at the chart below. It shows sales of a company's two main divisions and the company's stock dividends in percent over a period of 10 years. Which year does each statement (1–5) below describe? Match them with the correct graph (A–H). Use the letters only once.



Put the letter here ↓

1	Sales of trucks were at the same level as in the previous year, but car sales decreased, and the dividend dropped.	.....
2	While the dividend and the sales of trucks rose, the number of cars sold fell.	.....
3	Sales of trucks were reduced, and the dividend decreased despite the fact that sales of cars grew.	.....
4	Sales of cars as well as the dividend improved whereas fewer trucks were sold that year.	.....
5	Truck sales remained stable compared to the year before even though the sales of cars increased and the dividend went up, too.	.....

