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## Level 3

### Xiaomi becomes third-largest smartphone maker

**31st December, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

A four-year-old Chinese tech company has become the world's third-largest smartphone maker, behind Samsung and Apple. The company is called Xiaomi Inc. It has also become the world's most valuable tech start-up and is more valuable than Uber, Dropbox, Pinterest and Snapchat. The Beijing-based company just raised \$1.1 billion in funding and is now worth \$45 billion. That makes it worth more than tech giants LG, Motorola and Sony put together. Xiaomi is also the world's fastest-growing smartphone maker. Its sales increased by 211 per cent in 2014. Its market share has also increased from 2 per cent to 5 per cent over the past year and it looks like that will increase further.

Xiaomi has a unique business model. It sells its phones for around what they cost to make. Profits come from apps and software. It also makes its customers follow the company. Many Xiaomi users in China are very loyal fans of the company. The company uses marketing campaigns that give fans the chance to win prizes. This makes the company very popular. Bin Lin, Xiaomi co-founder and president, said: "We will strive to continue bringing innovation to everyone, with a goal of producing high-quality, high-performance devices with great user experience." However, not everyone is a fan of Xiaomi. Apple's chief designer Jonathan Ive said Xiaomi stole the design of its phone and many ideas from Apple.

Sources: <http://money.cnn.com/2014/12/29/technology/mobile/xiaomi-smartphone/index.html?sr=fb122914xiaomi1230pVODtopLIInk>  
<http://www.cnet.com/news/chinese-smartphone-start-up-xiaomi-raises-1-1b-for-45b-value/>  
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/xiaomi-becomes-worlds-most-valuable-tech-startup-1419843430>

# WARM-UPS

**1. SMARTPHONES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about smartphones. 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?

*a four-year-old / valuable / start-up / funding / tech giants / sales / market share / business model / profits / loyal / fans / popular / innovation / chief designer / design*

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

**3. MARKET SHARE:** How can these companies increase their market share? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How to increase market share	Problems doing this
Apple		
McDonald's		
Nike		
Facebook		
Chanel		
Ferrari		

**4. XIAOMI:** Students A **strongly** believe Xiaomi will become the top smartphone maker with the best phone; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. TECH:** Rank these with your partner. Put your favourite tech company at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Facebook
- Yahoo
- Apple
- Microsoft
- Google
- WhatsApp
- Spotify
- Samsung

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

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

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

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. The company Xiaomi was founded in 2002.                     | T / F |
| b. Xiaomi is more valuable than both Dropbox and Pinterest.    | T / F |
| c. Xiaomi is worth more than LG and Sony put together.         | T / F |
| d. Xiaomi's market share more than doubled last year.          | T / F |
| e. Xiaomi makes a lot of profit from selling its phones.       | T / F |
| f. The company attracts fans by using competitions and prizes. | T / F |
| g. The president of the company is called Mr Xiaomi.           | T / F |
| h. Apple's chief designer is a big fan of Xiaomi's phones.     | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. maker        | a. rose         |
| 2. raised       | b. combined     |
| 3. put together | c. try hard     |
| 4. increased    | d. more         |
| 5. further      | e. special      |
| 6. unique       | f. manufacturer |
| 7. loyal        | g. well-liked   |
| 8. popular      | h. collected    |
| 9. strive       | i. head         |
| 10. chief       | j. faithful     |

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

- |                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. A four-year-old Chinese        | a. funding                  |
| 2. the world's most valuable tech | b. fans                     |
| 3. raised \$1.1 billion in        | c. increase further         |
| 4. Its market                     | d. designer                 |
| 5. it looks like that will        | e. model                    |
| 6. Xiaomi has a unique business   | f. start-up                 |
| 7. Profits come from              | g. devices                  |
| 8. loyal                          | h. share has also increased |
| 9. high-performance               | i. apps and software        |
| 10. Apple's chief                 | j. tech company             |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

A four-year-old Chinese (1) \_\_\_\_\_ company has become the world's third-largest smartphone maker, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Samsung and Apple. The company is called Xiaomi Inc. It has also become the world's most valuable tech (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and is more valuable than Uber, Dropbox, Pinterest and Snapchat. The Beijing-(4) \_\_\_\_\_ company just raised \$1.1 billion in funding and is now worth \$45 billion. That makes it (5) \_\_\_\_\_ more than tech giants LG, Motorola and Sony put (6) \_\_\_\_\_. Xiaomi is also the world's fastest-growing smartphone maker. Its sales increased by 211 per cent in 2014. Its market (7) \_\_\_\_\_ has also increased from 2 per cent to 5 per cent over the past year and it looks like that will increase (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*behind*  
*worth*  
*tech*  
*share*  
*based*  
*further*  
*start-up*  
*together*

Xiaomi has a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ business model. It sells its phones for around what they cost to make. Profits come from apps and software. It also makes its customers (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the company. Many Xiaomi users in China are very loyal (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of the company. The company uses marketing campaigns that give fans the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to win prizes. This makes the company very popular. Bin Lin, Xiaomi co-founder and president, said: "We will (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to continue bringing innovation to everyone, with a (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of producing high-quality, high-performance devices with great (15) \_\_\_\_\_ experience." However, not everyone is a fan of Xiaomi. Apple's chief (16) \_\_\_\_\_ Jonathan Ive said Xiaomi stole the design of its phone and many ideas from Apple.

*follow*  
*strive*  
*unique*  
*user*  
*chance*  
*designer*  
*fans*  
*goal*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

- 1) It has also become the world's most valuable \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. tech start-top
  - b. tech start-tap
  - c. tech start-up
  - d. tech start-app
- 2) The Beijing-based company just raised \$1.1 billion in funding and is now \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. worthless \$45 billion
  - b. worthwhile \$45 billion
  - c. worthy \$45 billion
  - d. worth \$45 billion
- 3) That makes it worth more than tech giants LG, Motorola and Sony \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. put together
  - b. but together
  - c. back together
  - d. pool together
- 4) Its sales increased by \_\_\_\_\_ in 2014
  - a. 210 per cent
  - b. 211 per cent
  - c. 212 per cent
  - d. 213 per cent
- 5) ... over the past year and it looks like that \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. will increase further
  - b. will increase farther
  - c. will increase future
  - d. will increase fitter
- 6) It sells its phones for around what they \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. costs to make
  - b. costly to make
  - c. costed to make
  - d. cost to make
- 7) It also makes its customers \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. following the company
  - b. follows the company
  - c. follow the company
  - d. follower the company
- 8) The company uses marketing campaigns that give fans the chance \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to win prize is
  - b. to win praise
  - c. to win praises
  - d. to win prizes
- 9) a goal of producing high-quality, high-performance devices with \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. great user experience
  - b. great useful experience
  - c. great used experience
  - d. great uses experience
- 10) However, not everyone is a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. fun of Xiaomi
  - b. fin of Xiaomi
  - c. fan of Xiaomi
  - d. fen of Xiaomi

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

A four-year-old Chinese tech company has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ third-largest smartphone maker, behind Samsung and Apple. The company is called Xiaomi Inc. It has also become the world's (2) \_\_\_\_\_ start-up and is more valuable than Uber, Dropbox, Pinterest and Snapchat. The Beijing-based company just raised \$1.1 (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and is now worth \$45 billion. That makes it worth (4) \_\_\_\_\_ LG, Motorola and Sony put together. Xiaomi is also the world's fastest-growing smartphone maker. Its (5) \_\_\_\_\_ 211 per cent in 2014. Its market share has also increased from 2 per cent to 5 per cent over the past year and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ increase further.

Xiaomi has a unique business model. It sells its phones for around what they cost to make. Profits (7) \_\_\_\_\_ software. It also makes its customers follow the company. Many Xiaomi users in China are very loyal fans of the company. The company uses (8) \_\_\_\_\_ that give fans the (9) \_\_\_\_\_. This makes the company very popular. Bin Lin, Xiaomi co-founder and president, said: "We will strive to continue (10) \_\_\_\_\_ everyone, with a goal of producing high-quality, high-performance devices with (11) \_\_\_\_\_." However, not everyone is a fan of Xiaomi. Apple's chief designer Jonathan Ive said Xiaomi (12) \_\_\_\_\_ its phone and many ideas from Apple.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

1. How old is Xiaomi?

---

2. How much funding did Xiaomi recently raise?

---

3. Which tech giants is Xiaomi worth more than (name one)?

---

4. By how much did sales increase in 2014?

---

5. What was Xiaomi's most recent market share?

---

6. What does Xiaomi have that is unique?

---

7. Where do most of Xiaomi's profits come from?

---

8. What do Xiaomi's fans have the chance to win?

---

9. What did Bin Lin say he would strive to bring to everyone?

---

10. Who is not a fan of Xiaomi?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

1. How old is Xiaomi?
  - a) 7
  - b) 6
  - c) 5
  - d) 4
2. How much funding did Xiaomi recently raise?
  - a) \$211 billion
  - b) \$1.1 billion
  - c) \$45 billion
  - d) \$4 billion
3. Which tech giants is Xiaomi worth more than (name one)?
  - a) Yahoo, Google and Microsoft
  - b) Samsung, Nokia and Apple
  - c) LG, Motorola or Sony
  - d) Facebook, Twitter and Flickr
4. By how much did sales increase in 2014?
  - a) 211%
  - b) 210%
  - c) 212%
  - d) 221%
5. What was Xiaomi's most recent market share?
  - a) 2%
  - b) 4%
  - c) 5%
  - d) 3%
6. What does Xiaomi have that is unique?
  - a) loyal fans
  - b) a business model
  - c) a logo
  - d) an app
7. Where do most of Xiaomi's profits come from?
  - a) US dollars
  - b) the middle classes
  - c) Beijing
  - d) apps and software
8. What do Xiaomi's fans have the chance to win?
  - a) prizes
  - b) free Internet access
  - c) praise
  - d) holidays
9. What did Bin Lin say he would strive to bring to everyone?
  - a) health
  - b) happiness
  - c) innovation
  - d) a smart watch
10. Who is not a fan of Xiaomi?
  - a) the Smartphone Designer of the Year
  - b) Apple's chief designer Jonathan Ive
  - c) the boss of Samsung
  - d) a woman from Shanghai

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

## **Role A – Facebook**

You think Facebook is the best tech company. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their companies aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Google, Apple or Sony.

## **Role B – Google**

You think Google is the best tech company. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their companies aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Facebook, Apple or Sony.

## **Role C – Apple**

You think Apple is the best tech company. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their companies aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Google, Facebook or Sony.

## **Role D – Sony**

You think Sony is the best tech company. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their companies aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Google, Apple or Facebook.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

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

<b>smart</b>	<b>phone</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>• behind</li><li>• most</li><li>• raised</li><li>• 45</li><li>• fastest</li><li>• 5</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• sells</li><li>• follow</li><li>• chance</li><li>• goal</li><li>• everyone</li><li>• ideas</li></ul>
---	---

# SMARTPHONES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

Write five GOOD questions about smartphones 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.

# SMARTPHONES DISCUSSION

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

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'tech'?
- 3) What do you think of the different smartphone companies?
- 4) How important is a smartphone to you?
- 5) How have smartphones changed people's lives?
- 6) What do you think of Xiaomi Inc. becoming so big so quickly?
- 7) Would you buy a Xiaomi phone?
- 8) What are the best and worst things about smartphones?
- 9) How big do you think Xiaomi will become?
- 10) What do you think Apple and Samsung think about Xiaomi?

*Xiaomi becomes third-largest smartphone maker – 31st December, 2014*  
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# SMARTPHONES DISCUSSION

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) What's your favourite tech giant, and why?
- 13) What is unique about Xiaomi's business model?
- 14) What companies are you loyal to, and why?
- 15) Do you like campaigns where you can win prizes?
- 16) Which company is the most innovative in the world?
- 17) How important is innovation?
- 18) What's your favourite device, and why?
- 19) Do you think Apple will sue Xiaomi?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the boss of Xiaomi?

# 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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

A four-year-old Chinese tech company has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the world's third-largest smartphone maker, behind Samsung and Apple. The company is called Xiaomi Inc. It has also become the world's most (2) \_\_\_\_\_ tech start-up and is more valuable than Uber, Dropbox, Pinterest and Snapchat. The Beijing-(3) \_\_\_\_\_ company just raised \$1.1 billion in funding and is now worth \$45 billion. That makes it worth more than tech giants LG, Motorola and Sony (4) \_\_\_\_\_ together. Xiaomi is also the world's fastest-(5) \_\_\_\_\_ smartphone maker. Its sales increased by 211 per cent in 2014. Its market share has also increased from 2 per cent to 5 per cent over the past year and it looks like that will increase (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Xiaomi has a unique business (7) \_\_\_\_\_. It sells its phones for around what they cost to make. Profits come from apps and software. It also makes its customers (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the company. Many Xiaomi users in China are very loyal fans of the company. The company uses marketing campaigns that give fans the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to win prizes. This (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the company very popular. Bin Lin, Xiaomi co-founder and president, said: "We will strive to continue bringing innovation to everyone, with a goal of producing high-quality, high-performance devices with great (11) \_\_\_\_\_ experience." However, not everyone is a fan of Xiaomi. Apple's (12) \_\_\_\_\_ designer Jonathan Ive said Xiaomi stole the design of its phone and many ideas from Apple.

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

- |     |             |               |             |              |
|-----|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) became  | (b) become    | (c) becomes | (d) becoming |
| 2.  | (a) value   | (b) valuation | (c) values  | (d) valuable |
| 3.  | (a) base    | (b) basing    | (c) based   | (d) bases    |
| 4.  | (a) put     | (b) as        | (c) so      | (d) are      |
| 5.  | (a) growth  | (b) growing   | (c) grown   | (d) grows    |
| 6.  | (a) further | (b) future    | (c) farther | (d) fatter   |
| 7.  | (a) frame   | (b) scaffold  | (c) model   | (d) replica  |
| 8.  | (a) follow  | (b) chase     | (c) pursue  | (d) tail     |
| 9.  | (a) where   | (b) opportune | (c) once    | (d) chance   |
| 10. | (a) takes   | (b) gives     | (c) makes   | (d) does     |
| 11. | (a) uses    | (b) used      | (c) abuser  | (d) user     |
| 12. | (a) chief   | (b) chef      | (c) craft   | (d) chafe    |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. the world's most lbaevalu tech start-up
2. The Beijing-desab company
3. sdeair \$1.1 billion
4. tech gastin
5. Its market hreas
6. it looks like that will increase huerfrt

## Paragraph 2

7. Xiaomi has a euunqi business model
8. apps and awrftoes
9. its sstmoucre follow the company
10. marketing pgnacsima
11. bringing nnoaonivti to everyone
12. high-performance edievcs



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

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

- ( ) increased by 211 per cent in 2014. Its market share has also increased from 2 per cent
- ( ) valuable tech start-up and is more valuable than Uber, Dropbox, Pinterest and Snapchat. The Beijing-
- ( ) make. Profits come from apps and software. It also makes its customers follow the company. Many Xiaomi users
- ( ) designer Jonathan Ive said Xiaomi stole the design of its phone and many ideas from Apple.
- ( **1** ) A four-year-old Chinese tech company has become the world's third-largest smartphone maker, behind
- ( ) devices with great user experience." However, not everyone is a fan of Xiaomi. Apple's chief
- ( ) Xiaomi has a unique business model. It sells its phones for around what they cost to
- ( ) to win prizes. This makes the company very popular. Bin Lin, Xiaomi co-founder and president, said: "We will
- ( ) Samsung and Apple. The company is called Xiaomi Inc. It has also become the world's most
- ( ) to 5 per cent over the past year and it looks like that will increase further.
- ( ) giants LG, Motorola and Sony put together. Xiaomi is also the world's fastest-growing smartphone maker. Its sales
- ( ) based company just raised \$1.1 billion in funding and is now worth \$45 billion. That makes it worth more than tech
- ( ) in China are very loyal fans of the company. The company uses marketing campaigns that give fans the chance
- ( ) strive to continue bringing innovation to everyone, with a goal of producing high-quality, high-performance

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

1. world's tech up the valuable - Become most start.

---

2. raised based The \$1.1 company Beijing billion just -.

---

3. - growing smartphone maker Xiaomi is also the world's fastest.

---

4. increased from 2 per cent . Its market share has also

---

5. increase will that like looks It further.

---

6. to make It sells its phones for what they cost.

---

7. company its customers It follow also the makes.

---

8. fans Give prizes win to chance the.

---

9. continue to strive will We innovation bringing.

---

10. everyone fan not a Xiaomi , is of However.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

A four-year-old Chinese tech company has *became / become* the world's third-largest smartphone maker, *behind / back* Samsung and Apple. The company is called Xiaomi Inc. It has also become the world's most *value / valuable* tech start-up and is more valuable than Uber, Dropbox, Pinterest and Snapchat. The Beijing-based company just *arose / raised* \$1.1 billion in funding and is now *worth / worthy* \$45 billion. That makes it worth more than tech *giant / giants* LG, Motorola and Sony put *together / apart*. Xiaomi is also the world's *fastest-growing / fastest-growth* smartphone maker. Its sales increased by 211 per cent in 2014. Its market *sharing / share* has also increased from 2 per cent to 5 per cent over the past year and it looks like that will increase *further / farther*.

Xiaomi has a *unique / uniquely* business model. It sells its phones for around what they cost to *do / make*. Profits come from apps and software. It also *makes / does* its customers follow the company. Many Xiaomi *uses / users* in China are very loyal fans of the company. The company uses marketing campaigns that give fans the chance *for / to* win prizes. This makes the company very *popular / popularity*. Bin Lin, Xiaomi co-founder and president, said: "We will strive to continue *bring / bringing* innovation to everyone, with a goal of producing high-quality, high-performance *devices / devils* with great user experience." However, not *everyone / someone* is a fan of Xiaomi. Apple's chief designer Jonathan Ive said Xiaomi stole the *resign / design* of its phone and many ideas from Apple.

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

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

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

\_ f \_ r - y \_ r - \_ l d Ch \_ n \_ s \_ t \_ ch c \_ mp \_ ny h \_ s b \_ c \_ m \_ th \_  
w \_ rld's th \_ rd - l \_ rg \_ st sm \_ rtp h \_ n \_ m \_ k \_ r, b \_ h \_ nd  
S \_ ms \_ ng \_ nd \_ ppl \_ . Th \_ c \_ mp \_ ny \_ s c \_ ll \_ d X \_ \_ m \_  
\_ nc. \_ t h \_ s \_ ls \_ b \_ c \_ m \_ th \_ w \_ rld's m \_ st v \_ l \_ \_ bl \_ t \_ ch  
st \_ rt - p \_ nd \_ s m \_ r \_ v \_ l \_ \_ bl \_ th \_ n \_ b \_ r, Dr \_ pb \_ x,  
P \_ nt \_ r \_ st \_ nd Sn \_ pch \_ t. Th \_ B \_ j \_ ng - b \_ s \_ d c \_ mp \_ ny  
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fr \_ m \_ ppl \_ .

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

a four-year-old chinese tech company has become the world's third-largest smartphone maker behind samsung and apple the company is called xiaomi inc it has also become the world's most valuable tech start-up and is more valuable than uber dropbox pinterest and snapchat the beijing-based company just raised \$11 billion in funding and is now worth \$45 billion that makes it worth more than tech giants lg motorola and sony put together xiaomi is also the world's fastest-growing smartphone maker its sales increased by 211 per cent in 2014 its market share has also increased from 2 per cent to 5 per cent over the past year and it looks like that will increase further

xiaomi has a unique business model it sells its phones for around what they cost to make profits come from apps and software it also makes its customers follow the company many xiaomi users in china are very loyal fans of the company the company uses marketing campaigns that give fans the chance to win prizes this makes the company very popular bin lin xiaomi co-founder and president said "we will strive to continue bringing innovation to everyone with a goal of producing high-quality high-performance devices with great user experience" however not everyone is a fan of xiaomi apple's chief designer jonathan ive said xiaomi stole the design of its phone and many ideas from apple

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1412/141231-smartphones.html>

A four-year-old Chinese tech company has become the world's third-largest smartphone maker, behind Samsung and Apple. The company is called Xiaomi Inc. It has also become the world's most valuable tech startup and is more valuable than Uber, Dropbox, Pinterest and Snapchat. The Beijing-based company just raised \$1.1 billion in funding and is now worth \$45 billion. That makes it worth more than tech giants LG, Motorola and Sony put together. Xiaomi is also the world's fastest-growing smartphone maker. Its sales increased by 211 percent in 2014. Its market share has also increased from 2 percent to 5 percent over the past year and it looks like that will increase further. Xiaomi has a unique business model. It sells its phones for around what they cost to make. Profits come from apps and software. It also makes its customers follow the company. Many Xiaomi users in China are very loyal fans of the company. The company uses marketing campaigns that give fans the chance to win prizes. This makes the company very popular. Bin Lin, Xiaomi co-founder and president, said: "We will strive to continue bringing innovation to everyone, with a goal of producing high-quality, high-performance devices with the great user experience." However, not everyone is a fan of Xiaomi. Apple's chief designer Jonathan Ive said Xiaomi stole the design of its phone and many ideas from Apple.







# 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 Xiaomi and its smartphones. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

**4. XIAOMI:** Write a magazine article about Xiaomi Inc. Include imaginary interviews with the CEOs of Xiaomi and Apple.

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 smartphones. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to make them better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d T    e F    f T    g F    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. maker        | a. manufacturer |
| 2. raised       | b. collected    |
| 3. put together | c. combined     |
| 4. increased    | d. rose         |
| 5. further      | e. more         |
| 6. unique       | f. special      |
| 7. loyal        | g. faithful     |
| 8. popular      | h. well-liked   |
| 9. strive       | i. try hard     |
| 10. chief       | j. head         |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Four years old
2. \$1.1 billion
3. LG, Motorola and Sony
4. 211%
5. 5%
6. A business model
7. Apps and software
8. Prizes
9. Innovation
10. Apple's chief designer Jonathan Ive

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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