The Business World

Unit 2: Telecommunications

Revised Edition 1999

Education Department
Hong Kong

Student's File BW 2.1.

Find someone who ... ...

1. knows what i/e means

_____

2. knows what MFN means

_____

3. knows what GDP means

_____

4. knows the name of the Thai currency

_____

5. knows what kind of a degree an MBA is

_____

6. knows what the Hang Seng index tells you

_____

7. knows what Hutchinson, T&T, C&W and IDD have in common

_____

8. knows what WTO means

_____

Student's File BW 2.2.

Read the words and then listen to the tape and tick the words you hear:

❑ Mobile-phone	❑ frequent	❑ competition
❑ subscribers	❑ subscription	❑ network
❑ co-operation	❑ radio frequency	❑ venture
❑ construction	❑ regulation	❑ seasonal
❑ alliance	❑ speculation	❑ finance

Comprehension Questions.

1. How many mobile-phone subscribers are there in China?

_____

2. What increase is expected?

_____

3. When did Unican start?

_____

4. What is a valuable commodity?

_____

5. How many subscribers does Unican have?

_____

6. What has been halved in price?

_____

7. What does Mr. Shee think of this?

_____

8. What is Hutchison's 150-300 million called?

_____

Pronunciation Spot

Listen and repeat.

Student's File BW 2.3.

The teacher will give you a worksheet for pair work. Please stick it on to this page afterwards.

Student's File BW 2.4.

Match the words with their meaning. Then find them in the article and underline them.

1. lucrative _____
2. stake _____
3. fanfare _____
4. burgeoning _____
5. fibre-optic _____
6. blue print _____
7. commercial _____
8. sophisticated _____
9. offset _____
10. inevitable _____

a. the original description that explains the basic facts of how something is expected to work.

b. certain to happen.

c. profitable, bringing in money.

d. related to or involving business.

e. to balance one amount against another so that the loss or gain is cancelled.

f. long thin threads of glass that carry information in the form of light.

g. a share or interest in a business.

h. music played to announce someone's arrival (Nowadays it usually means with a good deal of publicity).

i. developing or growing rapidly.

j. made with advanced and complex methods.

Student's File BW 2.5.

Reading comprehension

1. What is the deal that China is refusing to allow Hong Kong Telecom to take a stake in?

_____

2. How was the deal announced 19 months ago? What does this mean?

_____

3. Is China's telecommunications market growing? How do you know?

_____

4. How was the deal viewed by the industry?

_____

5. What does Mr. Smith think China's reluctance to agree comes from?

_____

6. How could a solution be reached?

_____

7. What is Hong Kong going to be?

_____

8. Did Hong Kong Telecom make a lot of C&W's operating profit? (How do you know?)

_____

9. How else do you know this?

_____

10. How many subscribers does Netvigator have now? and in the future?

_____

11. Where else is Hong Kong Telecom developing?

_____

12. What profits did C&W record?

_____

Student's File BW 2.6.

Time to Think:

A. In this unit you have worked on the area of telecommunications. Write down six new words you have learned and would like to remember and use again.

1. _____ 4. _____

2. _____ 5. _____

3. _____ 6. _____

B. When you work with the listening material, you are encouraged to help each other. This is not cheating! It is co-operative or collaborative group work. When we listen, we do not always hear everything (think about watching TV at home, for example). So we ask others "What was that, what did she/he say?" Checking with others after listening is the same idea. Of course, you have to work individually first but telling someone what you think the answer is helps you too!

Now you have a copy of the tapescript and can read what you have listened to. Perhaps you would like to read this with a partner so you can practise the pronunciation in context.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Student's File BW 2.6. (cont...)

C. How do you feel about listening to English? Do you listen for the general idea? Do you listen for something special and ignore everything else? Do you listen for details?

These stages build up your listening skills step by step.