

1.15

Business Builder
Teacher Resource Series

Current affairs and the economy

Teacher's Notes

AIM

To practise talking about the political and economic situation and the state of the market.

TIME

40-50 minutes

PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student in the class.

PROCEDURE

- 1 Write up on the board the phrase *Current Affairs* and elicit the meaning (events of political importance happening in the world at the present time). Ask the students whether they talk about current affairs and politics with foreign visitors, when it is acceptable etc.
(Despite its apparent sensitivity business people do talk about these topics in a general way because 'stability' is one of the things that investors are most interested in.)
- 2 Give out a copy of the worksheet to every student and ask them to look at **section A**. Refer to the instructions. Explain that they will use the questions to interview other people later. Take class feedback by writing additional questions on the board.

POSSIBLE ANSWERS

- 1 What policy does your government have for privatization/interest rates/regional trade etc. ?
What sort of Government do you have?
- 2 What are the main economic problems in your country at the moment?
Are houses expensive?
Does your country have a nuclear power industry?
- 3 What new opportunities do you have to expand your market?
What are the threats that your company faces?
Do you have an international market?
- 3 Refer to the instructions for **section B**. Explain that students should write notes about themselves, working individually. Start the activity and circulate, helping with vocabulary.
- 4 Refer to the instructions for **section C**. Divide the class into groups of two or three students. Remind students to listen carefully, to use the questions in section A and to use other questions as well. Start the activity, circulate and make a note of good/bad language use.
- 5 (Option) Ask the pairs/threes from the previous activity to regroup. The new groups start by talking a little about their previous partner/s, and then find out about their new partner/s.
- 6 Hold a short feedback slot.