

Water seller becomes China's richest man



Before listening

Read the definitions of the words below

to be worth - to have the value

retail - the sale of goods in shops for customers for their own use

wealth - a big amount of money or property that a person or a company owns

to branch out - to start doing something different

chairman - the president of the company

to emerge - to appear or come out and become known

a tap - a little piece of equipment which controls the flow of hot/cold water

rarely - not often

Complete the sentences with the words above

1. Profits were falling until the bookstore _____ into selling CDs.
2. She went into the bathroom and turned on the _____.
3. This method is _____ used in modern laboratories.
4. We are looking for more _____ outlets for our products.
5. The country's _____ comes from its oil.
6. The Microsoft _____ is Bill Gates.
7. Insects _____ in the spring and start multiplying rapidly.
8. Do you know how much the ring is _____?

Match the synonyms

worth	chief leader
retail	seldom
wealth	to appear
to branch out	a faucet
chairman	value
to emerge	riches
a tap	to diversify
rarely	sell in small quantities

Match halves of the phrases

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. A businessman who | a. to himself |
| 2. richer than the previous number | b. manufacturer |
| 3. the retail Internet | c. sells bottled water |
| 4. a vaccine | d. trust tap water |
| 5. he will move up that | e. worker |
| 6. construction | f. one |
| 7. prefer drinking bottled water | g. in public |
| 8. They prefer not to | h. giant Alibaba |
| 9. he is rarely seen | i. to tap water |
| 10. he likes to keep himself | j. list in the future |

Put these words into the spaces in the paragraph below.

latest
previous
vaccine
giant
magazine
list
worth
branched

A businessman who sells bottled water is now the richest man in China. The business (1) _____ Bloomberg named Mr Zhong Shanshan as China's richest man in its (2) _____ Billionaires Index. The magazine said Mr Zhong is (3) _____ over \$58 billion. This makes him \$2 billion richer than the (4) _____ number one, Jack Ma. Mr Ma founded the retail Internet (5) _____ Alibaba. Mr Zhong made his wealth from his Nongfu Spring bottled water company. He then (6) _____ out into making vaccines. He is the chairman of a (7) _____ manufacturer called the Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy. Mr Zhong is now 17th on the global rich (8) _____. It seems that he will move up that list in the future.

Put these words into the spaces in the paragraph below.

vaccine
industry
interviews
market
rarely
trust
media
tap

Zhong Shanshan, 66, was a construction worker before he got into business. He started his Nongfu Spring company in 1996. This was just as China's (9) _____ for bottled water was emerging. Bottled water is now a huge (10) _____ in China. Most people who live in China prefer drinking bottled water to (11) _____ water for health reasons. They prefer not to (12) _____ tap water. Zhong's pharmaceutical company is also helping in the fight against COVID-19. It is developing a nasal-spray (13) _____ with the help of researchers from a top university. Chinese (14) _____ call Mr Zhong a "lone wolf" because he is (15) _____ seen in public. He rarely gives (16) _____ and he likes to keep himself to himself.

Now listen and check