

8.4 Listening (LR8.5): Dubai - more than a desert

Fill the gaps with the missing Adjs & Nouns

Interviewer Ask most people outside the United Arab Emirates what they know about Dubai, and most of them would probably say property, but there is so much more to this _____ city. In the last twenty years, the _____ of the United Arab Emirates, or UAE, has grown rapidly, and nowhere shows this growth more clearly than Dubai. I'm with Faisal Al Abadi who works in the Dubai Chamber of Commerce. Faisal, what is it about Dubai that has enabled it to become the commercial centre of the UAE?

Faisal Well, historically, Dubai's _____ was built on the oil industry, but today revenue from the _____ and _____ industries only contribute less than 6% of the economy, which is around _____. Today, Dubai is a major _____ centre for banking and finance, as good as New York, London or Hong Kong. The Dubai Financial Market, or the DFM, was established in the year 2000. In fact, Dubai and New York are sister cities.

Interviewer What other types of industry is Dubai known for?

Faisal Well Dubai's main sources of income come from financial services, property and tourism. Tourism is especially important to Dubai, which has been called 'the _____ capital of the Middle East'. You can come to Dubai and buy anything and everything, from cars, clothing, _____, electronics, furnishings and sporting equipment. In fact, every January there is the Dubai shopping festival, a month long event where Dubai becomes one enormous _____. It's a consumer's paradise.

Interviewer I have heard that Dubai is now branching out into other types of _____ opportunities. Can you explain some of these?

Faisal Yes, of course. Well, property has been an exciting part of Dubai's economy for a long time now, and as you probably know, the _____ building in the world - Al Burj Khalifa - has just recently opened. IT and _____ media are also important to Dubai's economy. Geographically, we are well-positioned to service both Europe and the Middle East. Many _____ news agencies such as Reuters and APTN operate out of Dubai.

Interviewer So what do you think is the future for business in Dubai?

Faisal Well, we have to keep developing. We can't stand still. Trade, tourism, business and _____ are all part of the great _____ of this city. It's who we are. We are confident that the IT industry will become more important. That's where the real growth of the future lies. As well as promoting Dubai as a city for tourism and _____ exchange. You know we have many wonderful _____ and zoos, _____ and art centres, places of interest, as well as world famous _____. Dubai is a world city to rival any other.

Interviewer Well thank you Faisal for your insight into this _____ city