

Complete each gap with one word.

Branson, who (1) _____ out of school, concluded his first successful deal as a teenager with the magazine *Student*. When the magazine began losing money in the late 1960s, he formed Virgin Mail Order Records to (2) _____ money, and in 1971 he opened the first British discount record store. In 1973 he launched Virgin Records, which quickly (3) _____ the major store worldwide for punk and new wave. In 1984 he financed the airline that he renamed Virgin Atlantic Airways. Beginning with a single aircraft, the carrier succeeded (4) _____ fierce opposition from established airlines, and in 1992 Branson sold Virgin Records to raise more money for Virgin Atlantic.

By the 1990s Virgin, which was (5) _____ the largest companies in the United Kingdom, (6) consisted _____ about 100 businesses, including Virgin Megastores. In 2004 Branson formed Virgin Galactic, a space tourism company (7) _____ offered commercial suborbital passenger flights. In 2006 Branson sold Virgin Mobile, a wireless phone service, though he remained the largest shareholder of the company, which (8) _____ subsequently renamed Virgin Media, Inc. That same year he formed the collaborative entertainment companies Virgin Comics LLC and Virgin Animation Private Limited.

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