

Note

mortgage – a loan to buy a house (p. 42)

self-made – a person who has become successful and rich through his / her own efforts (p. 46)

HSBC – a high-street bank named after the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (p. 48)

Lloyds TSB – a high-street bank formed by the merger of Lloyds and TSB Banks (p. 48)

HBOS – a banking and insurance group in the UK (p. 48)

LSE – London Stock Exchange, where securities and equities are traded (p. 48)

Say it in American English

British

Bank of England

Limited / Ltd / plc

company

banknote (e.g. 10 pound banknote)

chairman of the board

managing director (not exact equivalents)

bankrupt

holiday

American

Federal Reserve System

Incorporated (Inc.)

corporation / incorporated

bill (e.g. 50 dollar bill)

chief executive officer (CEO)

president (of corporation)

insolvent

vacation

Compare

- ① Do most people in your country own their own house or rent a flat?
- ② Does your country have a legal minimum wage, and how does it compare to the UK?
- ③ Would you say it is easier in your country than in the UK for women to reach the top levels of management? (e.g. to become a company director?)

- ④ How do you think state-funded health care in your country compares to the UK?
- ⑤ Many British people rely more on credit cards than cash when shopping. Is cash still the main form of payment in your nation?