

## Vocabulary training

**A Starter** – Before you listen, discuss the meaning of the following key words with the person sitting next to you and try to give a definition in English.

- 1 union \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 government \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 merger \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 agreement \_\_\_\_\_

**B Airline merger interview** – Please write the words from the box in the appropriate gap. Then check your answers with the tape script in Ex 21 at page 7 of the KEY.

schedule – finalized – CEO – loss – mergers – federal – administration – progressing – profit  
 – share – negotiations – rose – agreement – steam – covered – prices – bookkeeping – deal  
 – stock – labour

- J Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to our radio show, «Business as it is Today». We have Doug Steenland, the \_\_\_\_\_ of Northwest Airlines, with us today to tell us how things are going in their merger with Delta Airlines. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Welcome to the show Doug.
- D Thank you for having me, Jane,
- J How is the merger \_\_\_\_\_ at the moment? \_\_\_\_\_
- D Well, we are within the timetable we set up. We think the merger will be \_\_\_\_\_ during the fourth quarter of the year, by the end of the year for sure. \_\_\_\_\_
- J How can you be so confident? Doesn't the \_\_\_\_\_ government have anything to say about it? \_\_\_\_\_
- D Oh, yes, but both Delta and we have satisfied all the demands for information that the government has asked for. We want to have this finished before the next presidential \_\_\_\_\_ takes office in January. \_\_\_\_\_
- J You don't seem to agree with the analysts, who say you had a \_\_\_\_\_ of \$377 million in the second quarter. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Why is that?
- D Because there were certain health costs, which were \_\_\_\_\_ by the group insurance, but went through our \_\_\_\_\_. If we subtract them, then we actually had a \_\_\_\_\_ of \$170 million. \_\_\_\_\_

- J Financial analysts predicted a loss of \$0.54 a share, mainly because of the high petrol \_\_\_\_\_. However, the price per \_\_\_\_\_ only went down by \$0.30. ....
- D Yes, and by Wednesday in trading at the \_\_\_\_\_ market, Northwest stock actually increased by \$1.38, that is, it \_\_\_\_\_ in value by 15.2% on a day when oil prices were still rising. We were glad it finished the day at \$10.46 a share. ....
- J Do you think this confidence is because of the merger?
- D Yes, that's the most logical reason. There is no question in anybody's mind. This merger is going to go through. However, there's always a special challenge in airline \_\_\_\_\_. You never know what problems lie ahead. ....
- J You're right. We've seen that happen many times. All the different \_\_\_\_\_ unions start causing the biggest problems. How are the \_\_\_\_\_ going in this respect? ....
- D Right, especially the pilots' union are a major problem that we seem to have already solved. We have a temporary labour \_\_\_\_\_ with them based on a four-year \_\_\_\_\_. Actually, the pilot union is \_\_\_\_\_ voting on it this week. So we feel everything is going in the right direction and on \_\_\_\_\_. ....
- J Well, it sounds like it is full \_\_\_\_\_ ahead! Thank you, Doug, for the positive news. We'll be back with our next guest, Mr John Ascot from Ascot Steel after this break. Please stay with us. ....

→ Now write the German meaning of these expressions on the dotted line on the right.