

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 2

#57 Maersk

Skills/ Objectives: Listening and speaking

PART 1: Before you watch...

Preparatory questions

1. Can you pronounce the word “Maersk”? Do you say “may...” or “mer...”?
2. Where do you usually see the word “Maersk”? And what does that tell you about the line of work they are in?
3. From the vocabulary list below, can you find one appropriate word to complete this sentence?
At Park'n'Shop our _____ of ice-cream is the best in town.

Vocabulary

1. Logistics (noun): careful organization
2. Reliable (adjective): can be trusted or believed
3. Flexible (adjective): able to change according to the situation
4. Infrastructure (noun): basic systems and services
5. Inventory (noun): the amount of goods a shop has

Answers for the relevant questions above will be provided in the next exercise.

Answers to relevant questions in the preceding set of exercises:

Question 2:

A polyglot.

Question 4:

The word is “harness.” The following are two samples sentences written using “harness”:

1. *“Human beings have harnessed the use of nuclear power to produce electricity in the modern world.”*
2. *“Harnessing nuclear power, human beings are producing clean electricity with it in the modern world.”*

PART 2: Video

This video describes Maersk as the world's largest container shipping company.

A. P. Moller-Maersk: Transport and Logistics (click the link below to watch the video)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZiaSUekMl9qG7FBn4rNZ9Q>

(Source: YouTube)

PART 3: Speaking

Technically, Maersk is a Danish surname and the Danish spelling is in fact “Mærsk.” But spelt this way the word would pose great difficulty to many non-Danish speakers; hence, M-a-e-r-s-k, and it would be useful if we learn how to pronounce it as though it were an English word:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40jmKnuSgYA>

Note the /3:/ sound here:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/pronunciation/longvowel5>

Do not be surprised if you hear Maersk pronounced differently! (Like /meəsk/.)

PART 4: Learn further

1. Now read about the fascinating history of Maersk:

<https://www.maersk.com/about>

2. "You have to listen, learn, and share. Give space to others...."

Listen to what Captain Kyaw Khaung has to say about humbleness.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c008f70zRPU>