

TASK 1 Find the words and phrases in the text described by the following: (The words appear in the article in the same order).

1. _____ (adj) = similar to something else and considered to be a copy of it
copycat crimes
2. _____ (adj) = brave enough to do dangerous things
3. _____ = what most people believe to be true
4. _____ (verb) = 1. to breathe in noisily through your nose, for example because you have been crying; 2. to smell something
5. _____ (verb) = to make someone suffer because they have done something against the law or against the rules
6. _____ (noun) = someone or something that has the same job or purpose as another person or thing, but in a different country, time, situation, or organization
7. _____ (verb) = 1. to quickly increase to a high level; 2. to fly high in the sky:
8. _____ (verb) = 1. to consider doing something in the future; 2. to think very carefully about something for a long time
9. _____ (verb) = to fall straight down very quickly from a high position; syn. *to plunge*
10. _____ = to refuse to accept something, especially because you do not think it is good enough
11. _____ (verb) = to know about something through a natural ability or feeling, without being told
12. _____ (noun) = a company or an organization that is connected with or controlled by another larger one
13. _____ (noun) = a situation when the edge of one thing fits over the edge of the other
14. _____ = broken into a lot of separate pieces or parts

TASK 2 Complete the gaps with the words you hear:

I have my doubts about the 1. _____ (**1 word**) of the merger between UniCredit and HVB, and the challenge of dealing with two different languages and cultures. But two factors 2. _____ (**5 words**): HVB's urgent need to merge and Mr Profumo's 3. _____ (**2 words**) in forging UniCredit out of several smaller Italian banks. There is also the advantage that no other merger 4. _____ (**1 word**) western and eastern Europe could expect such a good fit. The success of Bank Austria, which HVB bought in 2000, show that Gross-border mergers can indeed be successful.

What might the next move such be? In the past, Italy's central bank 5. _____ (**3 words**) foreign banks wanting to buy in Italy. Now that UniCredit 6. _____ (**3 words**), the central bank might look more kindly on one of two other 7. _____ (**2 words**), by the Netherland's ABN Amro and Spain's Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria. The most pressure to merge, though, may be felt by Germany's Commerzbank. Commerzbank has spent the past

year cutting costs in investment banking and **8.** _____
(5 words) as a middle-tier corporate and retail bank. But it will surely merge soon. **9.**
_____ **(5 words)** WestLB, a public sector
bank.

Deutsche's future is easy to predict. Deutsche said no last year **10.**
_____ **(7 words)** Postbank, a retail bank owned by Deutsche
Post. Now **11.** _____ **(3 words)**; that Deutsche is aiming to expand
at home and abroad. Deutsche is among those interested in Banca Comerciala Romana,
Romania's biggest bank. Although Deutsche has operations in several central European
countries, this would be its first big acquisition in the region.

*track record = your reputation, based on the things you have done or not done:
They have a long track record of being mean with their money.*