

Track 14 – Unit 5/5, 6

Announcer: Listen to the story of Jeff Bezos. Tick *true*, *false* or *not in the text*.

The success story of a global trader

Jeff Bezos is one of the most successful and richest people in the world. He is the founder of Amazon, the world's largest online store, and the owner of *The Washington Post*. His sense for business also made him an investor in the aerospace company Blue Origin, Uber, Airbnb and many more.

But who is this person? Jeff Bezos was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In 1993, he married the author Mackenzie Tuttle. They have got four children – three sons and one daughter, who is adopted from China. 25 years later, Jeff Bezos and his wife announced on Twitter that they are getting a divorce.

Already as a child Jeff Bezos showed an interest in how things work. As a teenager during high school he found his love for computers and started his first business, the Dream Institute, a summer camp for children. After he attended Princeton University and got a degree in computer science, he started working on Wall Street, where his career was going very well.

But Jeff Bezos had more goals in life. He quit his job and founded the company Amazon, named after the longest river in South America. First it was only a very successful online bookstore. Three years later, after offering other items there like CDs, clothes, toys and more, it slowly became the world's largest e-commerce business. Streaming services like Amazon Instant Video, Amazon Music and the eBook reader Kindle followed.

In 2013, Jeff Bezos fulfilled himself another dream: He bought the newspaper *The Washington Post*.

One of his newest projects is space tourism. With his company Blue Origin, Bezos wants to send people into space. Maybe Jeff Bezos, himself a big Star Trek fan, might one day fulfil his own dream of travelling into space.

Jeff Bezos is also engaged in charity. He founded the Bezos Family Foundation, which helps homeless and underprivileged children to get a good education.

In an interview Jeff Bezos once said that he knew that he just had to be “a part in this thing called the internet”.