

Lesson 49: Bankruptcy

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, practice each role.

Naoki and Alex are talking about the airline company, Starship. The company is in the news because of its financial problems.

Naoki: Can you believe this? (Pointing to a newspaper article) The big airline company, Starship, has gone bankrupt.

Alex: Really? Didn't they announce a plan to buy some new jet planes last year?

Naoki: They did. I think they ran into some financial trouble recently.

Alex: How?

Naoki: According to the news, the company is unable to pay for the new jets.

Alex: That's too bad.

Naoki: The news also says that Starship's executives will discuss matters with its creditors. They still want to revive the company.

Alex: The management must **figure out** a way to pay Starship's debts as soon as possible. A lot of people are going to lose their jobs if Starship closes down.

2. Today's Phrase

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, make a few sentences using Today's phrase.

1. Don't panic. Let's **figure out** a way to solve this problem.
2. Can you help me **figure out** this math problem?
3. Have you **figured out** what's causing your headache?

* **figure out** ~ / ~を考え出す、解決する

3. Your Task

Your friend (=your tutor) owns a small company. He's told you that his company is in debt, and that he will not be able to pay it back in time. Advise him to file for bankruptcy. He will disagree with your suggestion because he cares about his reputation. So, you will have to explain that filing for bankruptcy will give him a better chance in starting a new business.

4. Let's Talk

Do you know anyone who went bankrupt? Tell your tutor about it.

Talk about big Japanese companies that have gone bankrupt.

What causes a company to go bankrupt?

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.



Image courtesy of Stuart Miles / FreeDigitalPhotos.net