



## Stock futures decline following Meta Platforms and IBM's quarterly earnings reports: Live updates

### Description

European stocks started the day on a slightly lower note, with the Stoxx 600 index down 0.2% in early trading in London. The U.K.'s FTSE 100 managed to climb 0.5%, breaking a five-day winning streak, while France's CAC 40 was down 0.2% and Germany's DAX dropped 0.5%.

In Asia, the Nikkei 225 index fell 2.1% in afternoon trading, leading declines among Asian stocks. The broader Topix index also dropped 1.64%. Investors are eagerly awaiting the Bank of Japan's monetary policy decision on Friday, looking for insights into the inflation outlook amidst a weakening yen, higher oil prices, and strong wage growth.

Meanwhile, South Korean chipmaker SK Hynix posted its highest operating profit in almost two years, but its stock still slid almost 3%. South Korea also reported a robust GDP growth of 3.4% in the first quarter, outperforming expectations. Experts remain optimistic about the equities market, with projections for the S&P 500 to reach 5,500 by the end of the year, driven by strong corporate earnings and consumer spending.

### Vocabulary List:

1. **Stoxx** // (noun): A stock market index that represents European stock markets.
2. **FTSE 100** // (noun): An index of the 100 companies listed on the London Stock Exchange with the highest market capitalization.
3. **CAC 40** // (noun): A benchmark French stock market index representing 40 of the largest listed companies in France.
4. **Nikkei 225** // (noun): A stock market index for the Tokyo Stock Exchange measuring the performance of 225 large-cap Japanese companies.
5. **Topix** // (noun): A stock market index that measures the performance of all first-section companies listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.
6. **Corporate Earnings** // (noun): The profits that a company makes from its core business activities.

### Vocabulary quizzes

#### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What is the term used to describe strained relations or feelings between individuals or groups?

Option: A. Harmony



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- Option: B. Tensions  
Option: C. Peace  
Option: D. Tranquility
2. What is the process of reducing something to half its original amount called?  
Option: A. Doubling  
Option: B. Tripling  
Option: C. Halving  
Option: D. Quadrupling
3. Which term refers to the impact of geography on international politics and relations?  
Option: A. Geospatial  
Option: B. Geophysical  
Option: C. Geopolitical  
Option: D. Geometrical
4. What is the process of forming or joining a labor union known as?  
Option: A. Unionization  
Option: B. Corporation  
Option: C. Association  
Option: D. Syndication
5. Which term refers to the profits generated by a company?  
Option: A. Revenue  
Option: B. Expenditure  
Option: C. Earnings  
Option: D. Losses
6. What is the term used to describe an excessive desire for material wealth or gain?  
Option: A. Content  
Option: B. Generous  
Option: C. Greedy  
Option: D. Modest
7. Which term refers to the likelihood or expectation of success in the future?  
Option: A. Obstacles  
Option: B. Challenges  
Option: C. Prospects  
Option: D. Hindrances
8. What is the term used to describe an attitude opinion or emotion towards something?  
Option: A. Sentiment  
Option: B. Fact



- Option: C. Logic  
Option: D. Reason

9. Which term means to take advantage of a situation for personal gain?

- Option: A. Invest  
Option: B. Capitalize  
Option: C. Save  
Option: D. Spend

10. Which term refers to the degree of variation of a trading price series?

- Option: A. Stability  
Option: B. Volatility  
Option: C. Consistency  
Option: D. Predictability

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The team won the championship for the third \_\_\_\_\_ year.
12. The country imposed \_\_\_\_\_ tariffs in response to the trade restrictions.
13. The employees engaged in \_\_\_\_\_ to improve their working conditions.
14. The company introduced a \_\_\_\_\_ scheme to motivate employees.
15. Negotiations between the union and management resulted in significant \_\_\_\_\_  
for workers.
16. After weeks of discussions both parties finally reached a \_\_\_\_\_.
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ index tracks the performance of major European companies.
18. The \_\_\_\_\_ is a stock market index for the Tokyo Stock Exchange.
19. The \_\_\_\_\_ is a share index of the 100 companies listed on the London Stock  
Exchange.
20. The \_\_\_\_\_ index measures the performance of all companies listed on the first



section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. Investors engaged in buying and selling assets with the hope of making a profit.
22. An optimistic outlook on the future performance of a particular market or asset.
23. The examination of data and information to gain insights and make informed decisions.
24. A positive attitude or belief in a favorable outcome.
25. An increase or improvement in something.
26. A system in which employees receive a share of the company's profits.
27. The degree of variation in the price of a financial instrument over time.
28. The profits generated by a corporation from its business activities.
29. An excessive desire for wealth or material possessions.
30. Formally approved or confirmed usually through a vote or agreement.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. B. Tensions 2. C. Halving 3. C. Geopolitical 4. A. Unionization 5. C. Earnings 6. C. Greedy 7. C. Prospects 8. A. Sentiment 9. B. Capitalize 10. B. Volatility

**Gap-Fill:** 11. consecutive 12. retaliatory 13. organizing efforts 14. profit sharing 15. wage increases 16. contract agreement 17. Stoxx 18. Nikkei 225 19. FTSE 100 20. Topix

**Matching sentence:** 1. Speculation 2. Bullish 3. Analysis 4. Optimism 5. Boost 6. Profit Sharing 7. Volatility 8. Corporate Earnings 9. Greedy 10. Ratified

## CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL2

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