

John Ternus, Apple's New Boss (September 15, 2026)

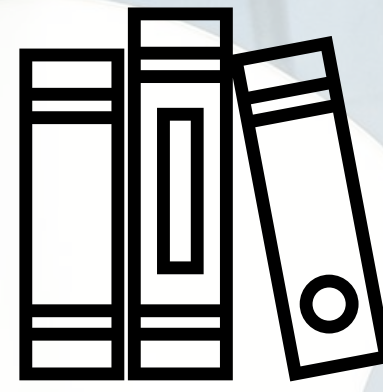
TEACHING GUIDE

- What?** Apple has a new top boss: John Ternus is replacing Tim Cook as the head of the company.
- Who?** John Ternus, an engineer who joined Apple in 2001, and Tim Cook, who served as CEO for 15 years.
- Where?** In Cupertino, California, where Apple's headquarters are located.
- When?** The change was announced on April 20, 2026, and Ternus became CEO on September 1, 2026.
- Why is it important?** Because Apple is one of the most famous companies on Earth!
- For this activity, your goal will be to learn a bit more about John Ternus and the company Apple.**



OBJECTIVES

- Discover John Ternus' career path, from young engineer to Apple executive
- Identify and select the correct homophones in an informative text
- Read and interpret data from an infographic on the global mobile phone market
- Perform calculations involving large numbers, decimals, and percentages



SUBJECTS

- **English**
 - Homophones
 - Reading comprehension
 - Short answers
- **Mathematics**
 - Interpreting an infographic
 - Adding and subtracting decimals
 - Percentages and rounding
 - Multiplicative comparison
- **Social Studies**
 - Managing a large company
 - Global technology companies
 - Innovation and its impact on society



COMPETENCIES

- Distinguish between words that sound the same but are spelled differently
- Read and understand an informational text
- Locate information in an infographic
- Perform simple calculations (subtraction, addition, percentage, division)
- Interpret the remainder of a division based on the context
- Provide short, precise answers



DURATION

- Approximately 60 minutes



GETTING STARTED

- Ask the students if they know the name of the head of a major company—any company.
- Make a list of the Apple products they know (iPhone, iPad, Mac, AirPods, Apple Watch, etc.).
- Ask: "How many years do you have to work at a company before you can run it?" and gather their guesses.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — From Engineer to Top Boss at Apple!

Reading of an informative text about John Ternus taking the helm at Apple, from which five homophones have been removed. The student picks the correct spelling from four choices.

Q1 — whole (means entire; hole is an opening)

Q2 — made (past form of to make; maid is a person who cleans)

Q3 — new (the opposite of old; knew is the past of to know)

Q4 — past (refers to the years that have just ended; passed is the past form of to pass)

Q5 — their (shows that the work belongs to the employees; there refers to a place)

STEP 2 — A Global Company. Reading an infographic showing global smartphone shipments from January to June 2026, followed by solving four problems.

Q6 — $125.5 - 116.9 = 8.6$ million

Q7 — $125.5 + 116.9 + 65.0 = 307.4$ million

Q8 — $116.9 \div 567.2 = 0.206$, or approximately 21%

Q9 — $125.5 \div 42.4 = 2.96$, or approximately 3 times as many

STEP 3 — A foldable iPhone! Discovery of the iPhone Duo on the Apple website, then solving three problems regarding its specifications.

Q10 — $7.6 - 5.4 = 2.2$ inches

Q11 — $20 \times 2 = 40$ minutes

Q12 — $2,999 \div 25 = 119.96$, or nearly 120 weeks—a little over two years.



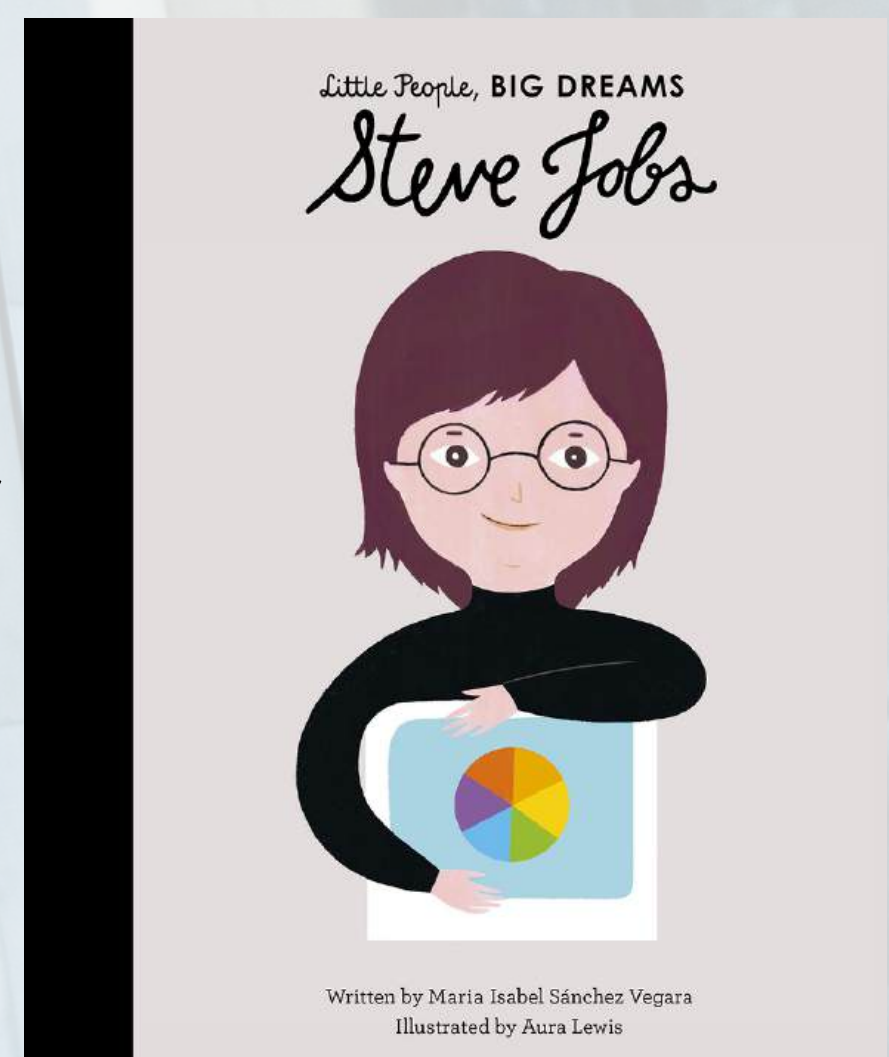
WRAPPING UP

- Conduct a group review of what the students took away from the lesson.
- Discuss what surprised them the most (Ternus's 25 years at Apple before becoming head, the price of the foldable phone, the shape of the headquarters).
- Draw parallels with other leadership transitions they are familiar with: a team captain, a school principal, a head of state.



FURTHER EXPLORATION

 Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara & Aura Lewis. *Steve Jobs*.
Frances Lincoln Children's Books



$461 \div 2 = 230.5$ meters

$3.14 \times 461 = 1,447.54$, or approximately 1,448 meters (almost 1.5 km)

$1.448 \text{ km} \div 5 \text{ km/h} = 0.29 \text{ h}$, then $\times 60 =$ approximately 17 minutes

$10,000 \div 1,448 = 6.9$, or 6 full laps

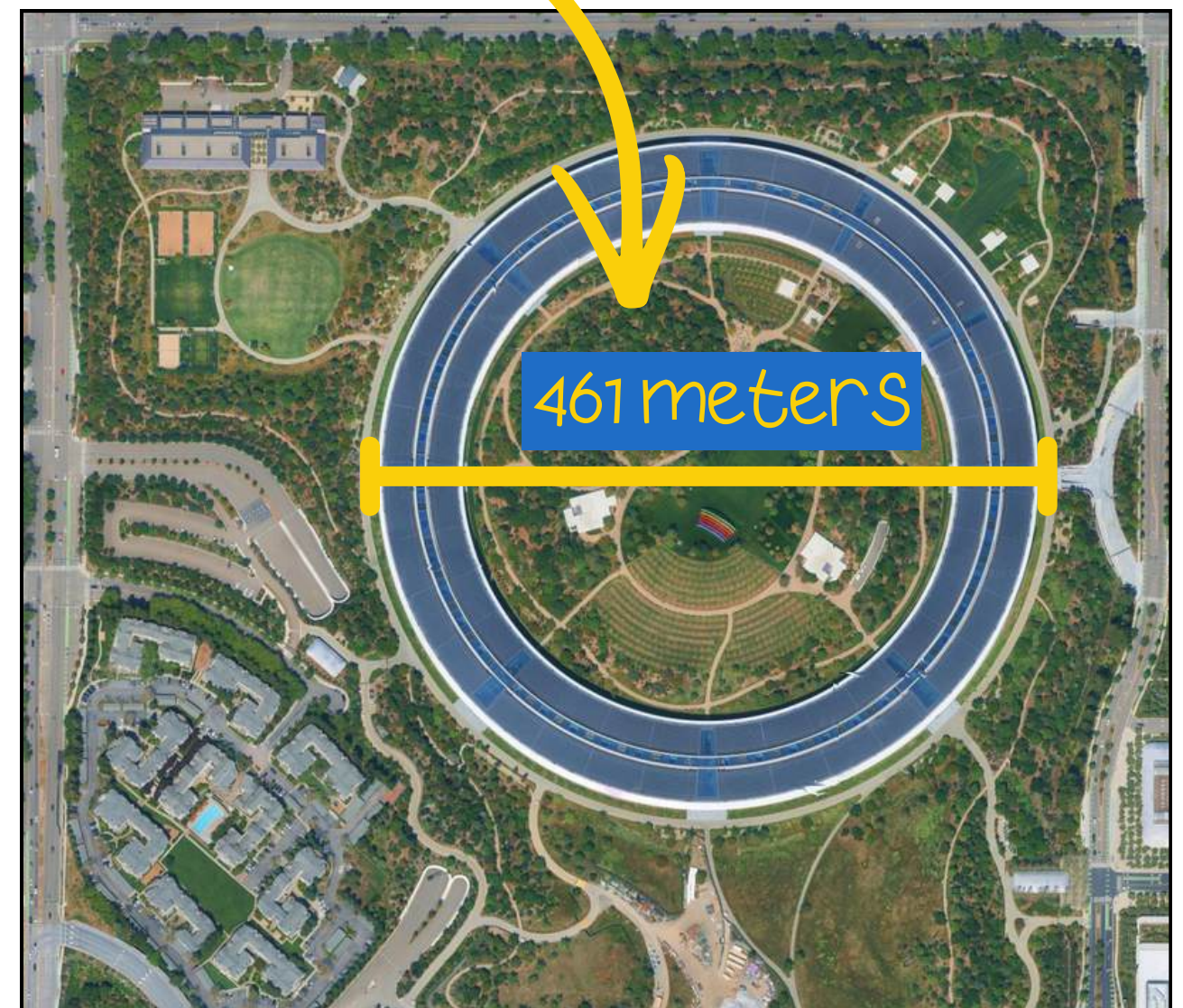
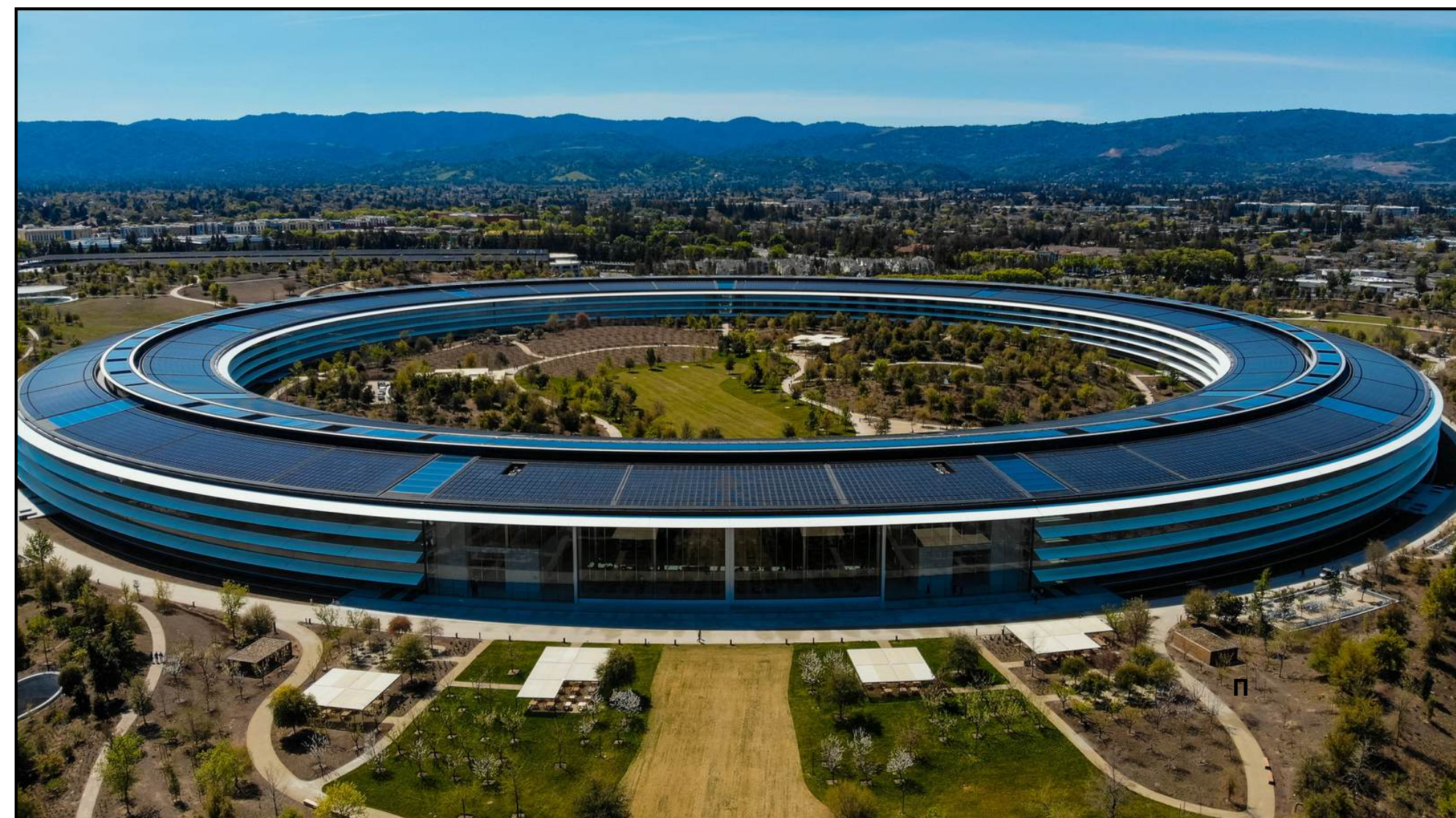


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A Headquarters From Outer Space!

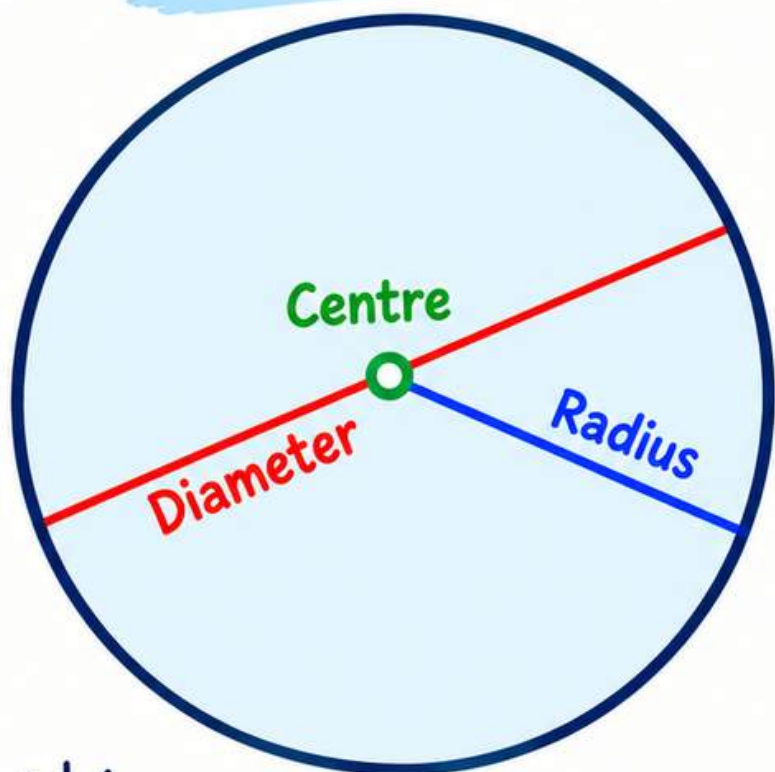
Seen from the sky, Apple's headquarters looks like a flying saucer resting amidst the greenery. In fact, employees have nicknamed it "the spaceship." It is neither a square nor a rectangle; it is an almost perfect circle, built in Cupertino, California, and completed in 2017.

A single measurement is all that is needed to calculate everything: the building measures 461 meters from one edge to the other, passing through the center.



> THE CIRCLE <

A circle is a closed curve made up of all the points that are the same distance from the centre.



Centre

The point in the middle of the circle.

Radius

A segment from the centre to the circle.

Diameter

A segment that passes through the centre and connects two points on the circle.

Circumference

The length of the circle's outline.

Diameter

$$d = 2r$$

The diameter is twice the radius.

Circumference

$$C = \pi d = 2\pi r$$

The circumference is equal to π times the diameter, or 2π times the radius.
 $\pi \approx 3.14$



Remember!

- The **diameter** = $2 \times$ **radius**
- The **circumference** = $\pi \times$ **diameter**
- The **circumference** = $2\pi \times$ **radius**

Here are a few questions that will test your knowledge of circles! Ready to get started?

- What is the radius of the building?
- What is the circumference of the building—that is, the length of one full lap? Use $\pi \approx 3.14$ and round to the nearest meter.
- An employee walks around the building at a speed of 5 km/h. How many minutes does it take? Round to the nearest minute.
- How many full laps can you complete by walking 10 kilometers?

💡 Did you know? Apple's spaceship-like headquarters is made of glass so transparent that, after it opened, employees walked right into it without seeing it! Some even got hurt. To prevent accidents, they stuck adhesive butterfly decals on the windows—but were then asked to remove them because they spoiled the building's beauty.

REMINDER: $\pi = 3.14$