**Student Name:** **Class Period:**

Directions: **read and annotate the following article.**

* **Use the highlight tool to highlight main ideas and key details.**
* **Take notes and ask questions about details in the text by *adding comments.***
  + **To add a new comment, highlight the text you want to add a note to and then click on the Review tab at the top of the screen and then click New Comment.**
  + **Then, type in your note. Notes should be addressing ideas like the following:**
    - **Why is that information you highlighted important?**
    - **What connections does this detail have to other events/news stories?**
    - **What words or phrases do you not know/understand? Look them up and write that in the comment box.**
    - **What questions does this make you ask about the situation?**

TikTok deal to sell U.S. business could be announced

as soon as Tuesday

P U B L I S H E D M O N , AU G 3 1, 2 0 2 0

TikTok has chosen a bidder for its U.S., New Zealand and Australian businesses, and it could announce the deal as soon as Tuesday, according to people familiar with the situation.

Microsoft, in partnership with Walmart, and Oracle are the two top contenders. The sale price is expected to be in the range of $20 billion to $30 billion, CNBC reported last week.

However, even though TikTok has selected a bidder, the deal could be slowed or derailed by the Chinese government, which updated its technology export list on Friday to include artificial intelligence technology used by TikTok. TikTok’s Chinese parent company, Bytedance, said over the weekend that it would need a license from the Chinese government before it can sell to a U.S. company.

Walmart emerged as a surprise contender last week, saying the social media app would augment its e-commerce efforts.

Walmart originally sought to be the majority owner in the deal in a consortium including Alphabet and SoftBank. But the U.S. government, which said it will ban TikTok in the U.S. if it doesn’t sell to a U.S. company by Sept. 20, wanted a tech company to lead the deal, according to sources familiar with the matter. Alphabet and SoftBank then dropped out, and Walmart partnered with Microsoft on the bid. In that scenario, Walmart would be a minority owner of TikTok.

TikTok’s CEO Kevin Mayer resigned last week as the deal neared its close, after just a few months on the job. TikTok executive Vanessa Pappas was named interim boss. Pappas told CNBC in an interview on Friday that she saw synergies with Walmart thanks to new e-commerce tools inside the TikTok app.

Representatives for Microsoft, Walmart and TikTok declined to comment.

--*CNBC’s Melissa Repko contributed to this report.*

* + **Level 1** - **surface level question** (factual/text-dependent)
    - What U.S. companies are the top bidders for the TikTok deal?
  + **Level 2** – **inference/analysis questions** (prompting inferences)
    - Why did the Chinese government suddenly update its export-control rules that might require TikTok’s parent company, ByteDance, to obtain a license (government permission) before it can sell to a U.S. company?
  + **Level 3** – **connection/prediction question** (text-to-world/predict)
    - What do all of the complications of this deal between a Chinese company and American companies/the American government reveal about the larger social or cultural differences/conflicts between these two countries?
    - If TikTok decides to sell to a non-U.S. company, would Trump really ban TikTok?