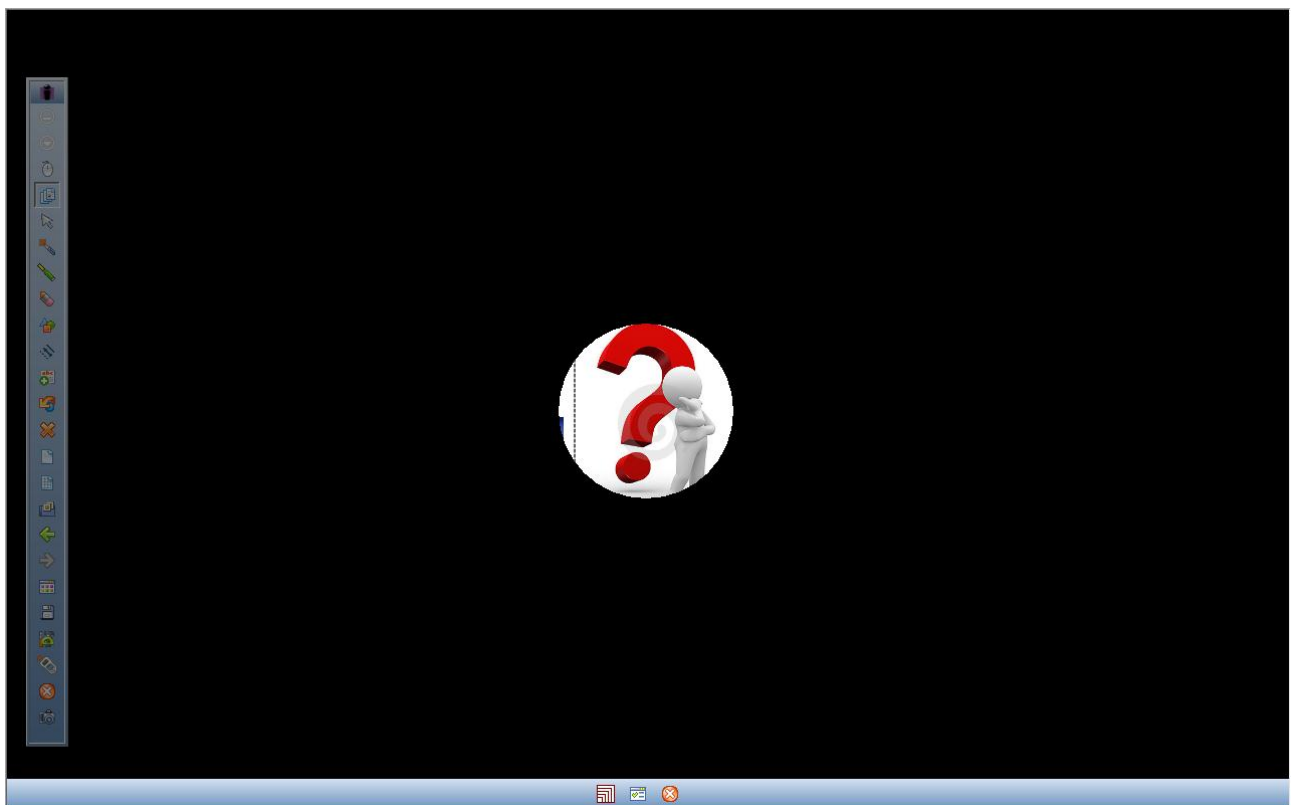


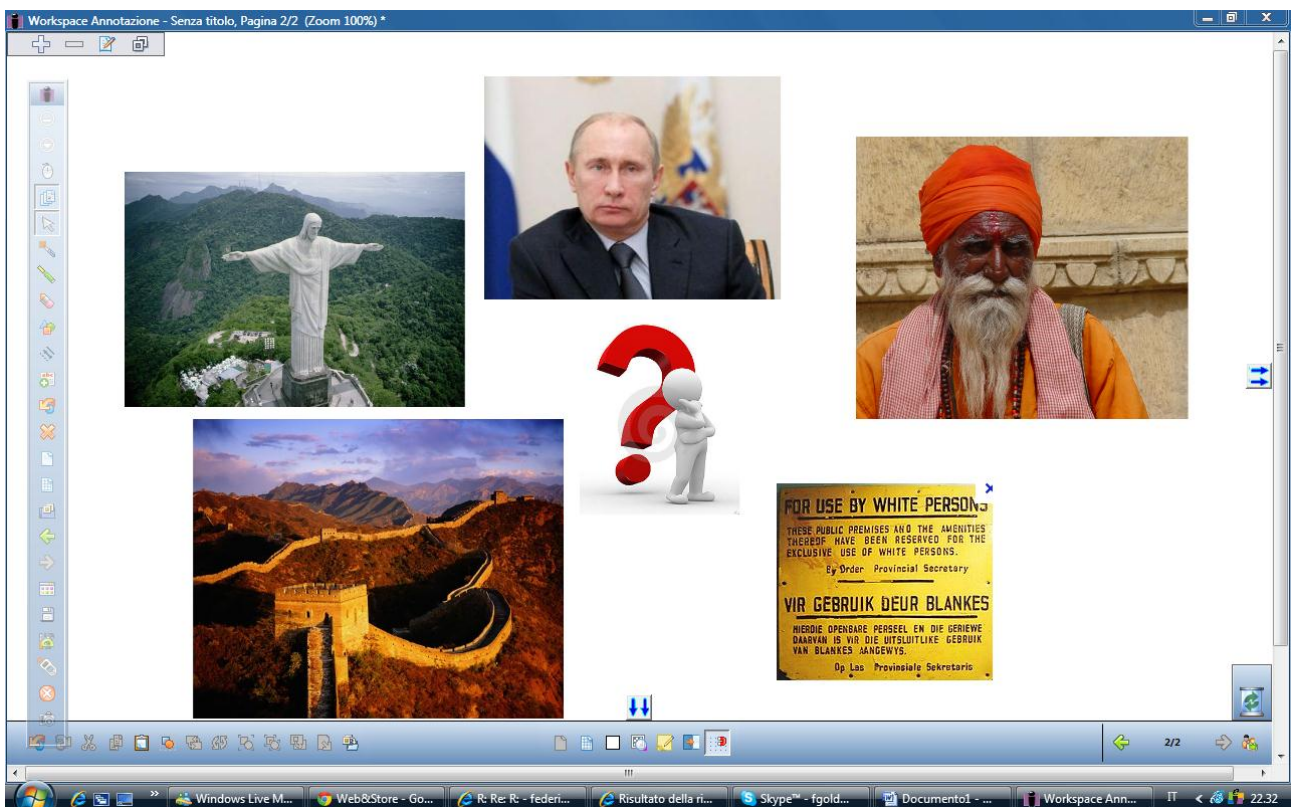


## 1. Warm-up



- The following images refer to some countries. The first letter of the countries makes an acronym. Can you guess it?

*Tip: Find out the right acronym working in pairs.*



- What's the right acronym?
- What does group A/B/C, etc. suggest?

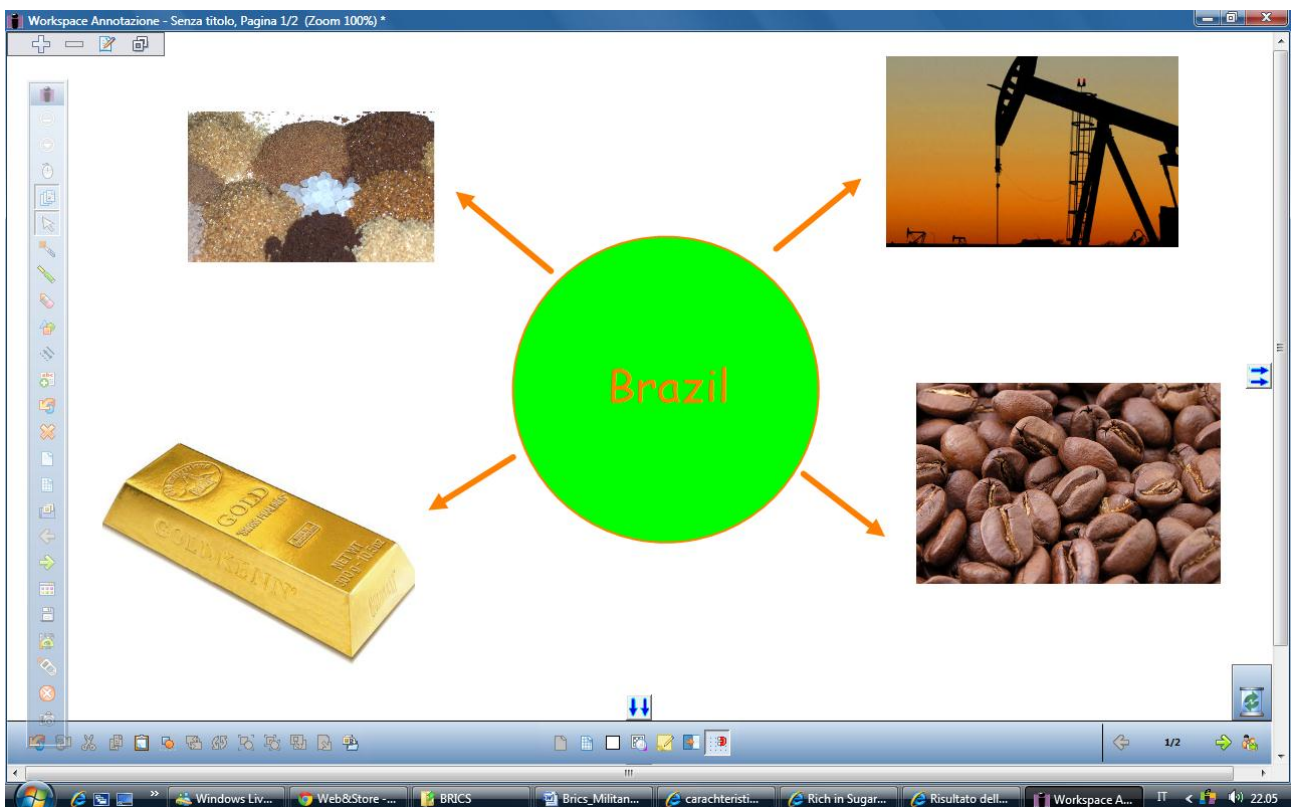
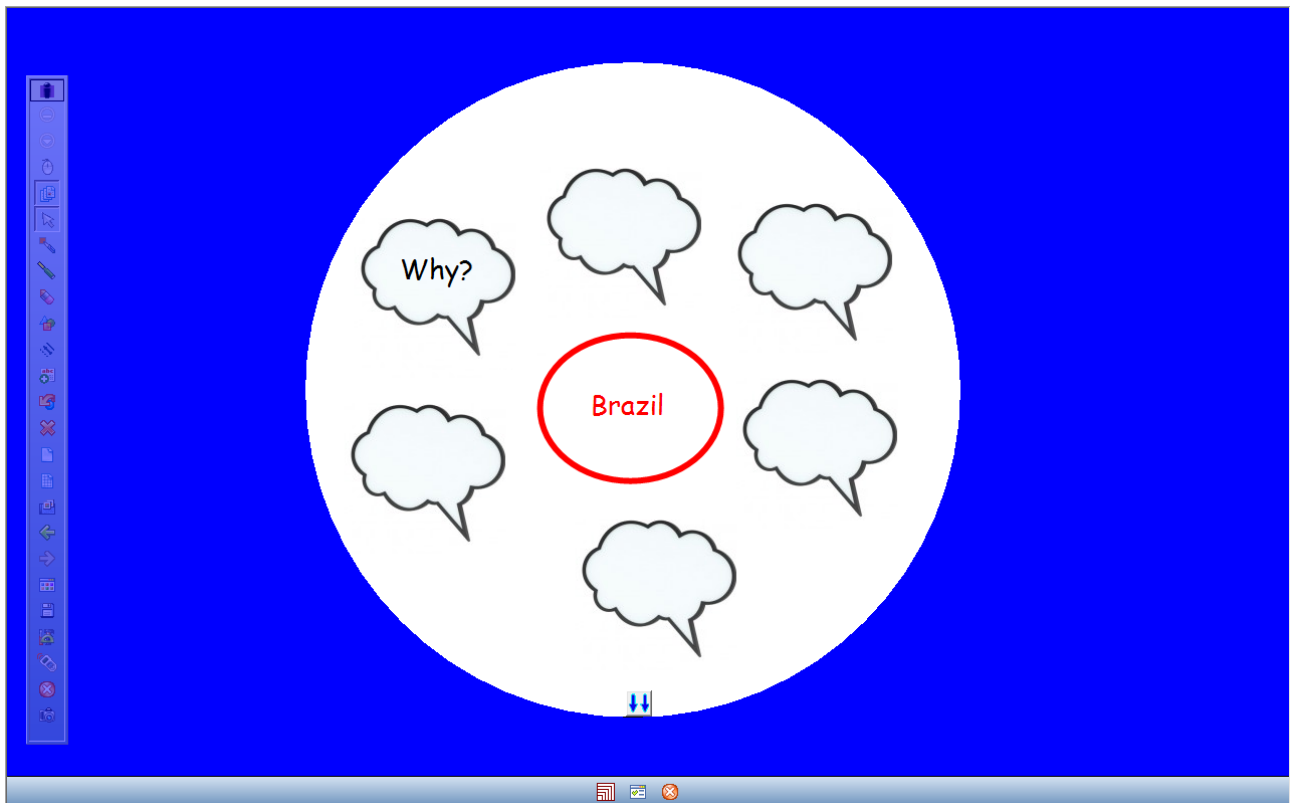
*2. Now answer these questions. Tell your partner.*

- **Describe the photo you like most to your partner and then to the classroom.**
  - a. Christ the Redeemer is a statue of Jesus Christ and the only Brazilian Wonder of the World. It was built in 1931 and has come to be a symbol of Rio de Janeiro.
  - b. Vladimir Putin is a Russian politician who has been the President of Russia since 7 May 2012.
  - c. The turban of a Sikh is his or her primary identifying feature.
  - d. The Great Wall of China is a series of fortifications made of stone, brick, tamped earth, wood, etc.

*Tip: Use free online dictionaries (example: [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com)) and free online Talking English Pronunciation dictionaries (example. [www.howjsay.com](http://www.howjsay.com)) in order to better describe and pronounce the images you like.*

- **Why do you think we are facing these countries?**
  - a. We are facing/analyzing/studying these countries because they are the main contributors to world's economic growth.
  - b. The Goldman Sachs Group, the leading global investment banking, believes that by 2050 Brics countries will be the most important economies, relegating the US to fifth place.
  - c. The undisputed heavyweight will be China as the largest creditor in the world.
- **Why are Brics economies still booming despite the global economic slowdown?**

- *Tip: Brainstorm or cluster your ideas with your partner using the “mind mapping” or the images below.*



3. *Look at the bold words. Have you ever heard any of these? Explain them working with your partner.*

*Tip: Browse the Net and find out the meaning of the bold words. You can use PP to create an exciting presentation about the new words. Don't forget to add images!*

In economics, **BRIC** is a grouping acronym that refers to the countries of Brazil, Russia, India and China, which are all deemed to be at a similar stage of newly advanced economic development. It is typically rendered as "the BRICs" or "the BRIC countries" or "the BRIC economies" or alternatively as the "Big Four".

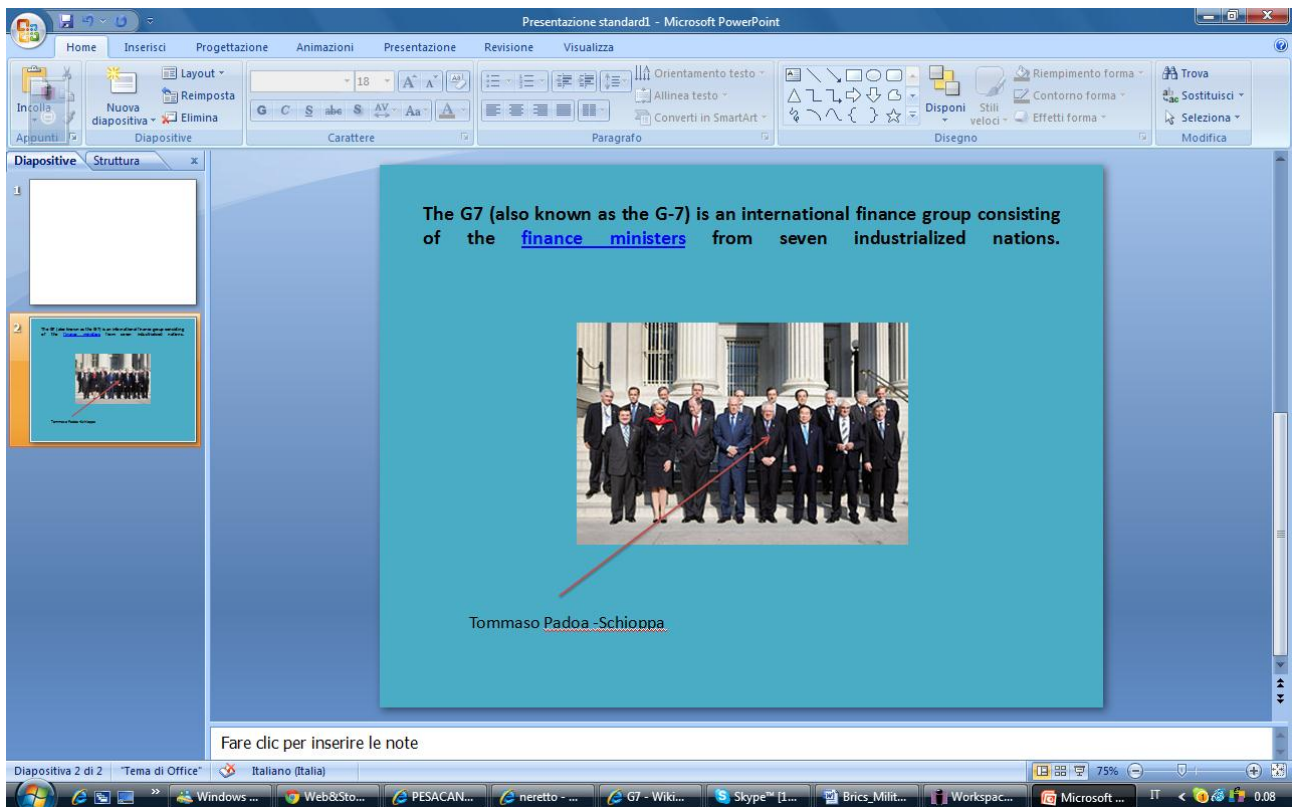
The acronym was coined by Jim O'Neill in a 2001 paper entitled "Building Better Global Economic BRICs". The acronym has come into widespread use as a symbol of the shift in global economic power away from the developed **G7** economies towards the developing world. It is estimated that BRIC economies will overtake G7 economies by 2027.

According to a paper published in 2005, Mexico and South Korea were the only other countries comparable to the BRICs, but their economies were excluded initially because they were considered already more developed, as they were already members of the **OECD**.<sup>1</sup> The same creator of the term "BRICS" coined the term MIKT, that includes Mexico and (South) Korea.

Several of the more developed of the **N-11** countries, in particular Turkey, Mexico, Indonesia and Nigeria, are seen as the most likely contenders to the BRICs. Some other developing countries that have not yet reached the N-11 economic level, such as South Africa, aspire to BRIC status. Economists at the Reuters 2011 Investment Outlook Summit, held on 6–7 December 2010, dismissed the notion of South Africa joining BRIC. Jim O'Neill told the summit that he was constantly being lobbied about BRIC status by various countries. He said that South Africa, at a population of under 50 million people, was just too small an economy to join the BRIC ranks. However, after the BRIC countries formed a political organization among themselves, they later expanded to include South Africa, becoming the BRICS.

Goldman Sachs has argued that, since the four BRIC countries are developing rapidly, by 2050 their combined economies could eclipse the combined economies of the current richest countries of the world. These four countries, combined, currently account for more than a quarter of the world's land area and more than 40% of the world's population.

<sup>1</sup>Goldman Sachs did not argue that the BRICs would organize themselves into an economic bloc, or a formal trading association, as the **European Union** has done. However, there are some indications that the "four BRIC countries have been seeking to form a 'political club' or 'alliance'", and thereby converting "their growing economic power into greater geopolitical clout". On June 16, 2009, the leaders of the BRIC countries held their first **summit** in Yekaterinburg, and issued a declaration calling for the establishment of an equitable, democratic and multipolar world order. Since then they have met in Brasília in 2010, met in Sanya in 2011 and in New Delhi, India in 2012.



#### 4. Read the article and match the words below to their definitions.

deemed	To engage in buying and selling for profit.
development	Occurring or accepted widely
widespread	To regard as
trading	Evolution

*Tip: Use a free online dictionary.*

#### 5. Read the article and answer the following questions.

- What is the definition of BRIC?
- Which countries constitute BRIC?
- Who coined the term BRIC?
- What do these countries all have in common?

#### 6. Write a brief summary of the Reading above in maximum 10 lines.

BRIC stands for Brazil, Russia, India and China. They all possess developing economies which are growing at a fast pace. In addition, all four countries have massive populations.



According to Goldman Sachs, the four BRIC countries will have tremendously large GDPs by the year 2050 ...

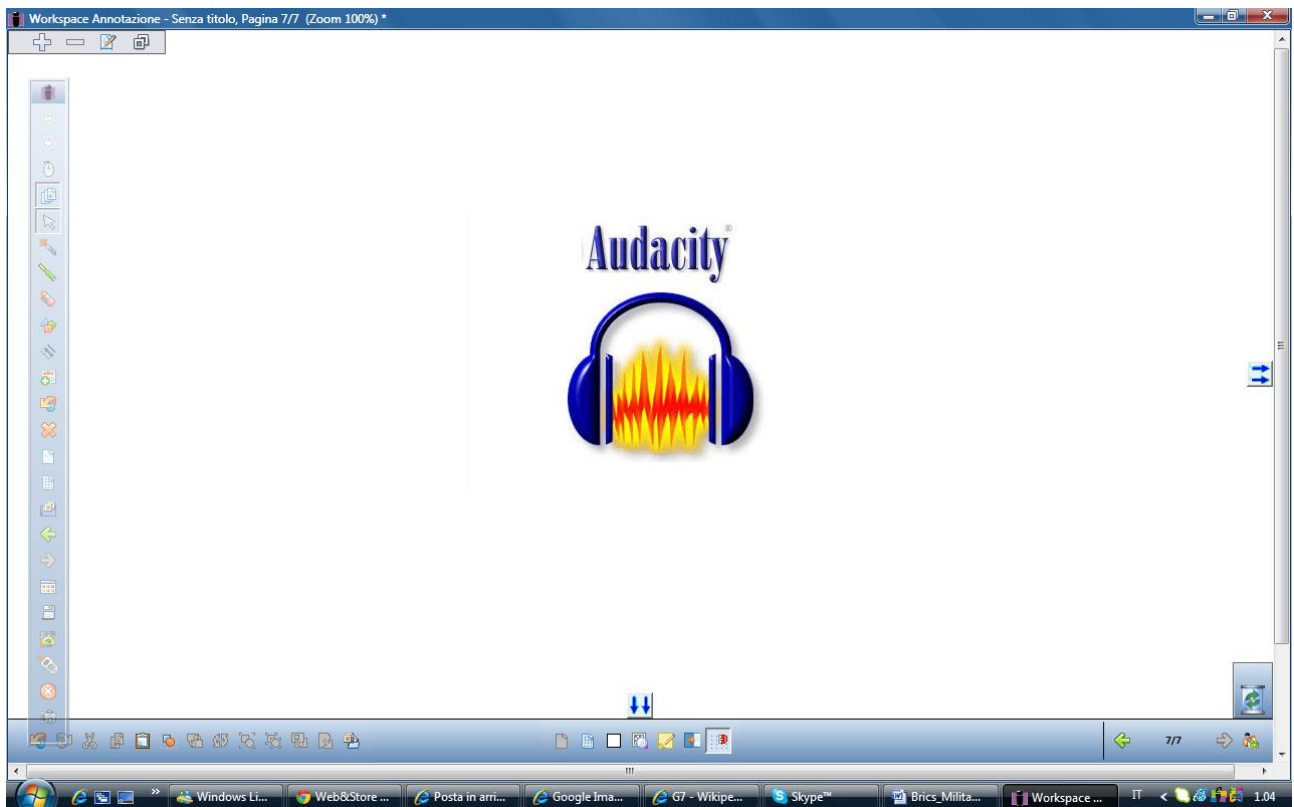
*Tip: If you can't summarize the text, help yourself with the answers of the exercise n. 5.*

7. *Insert the text you have written in a Voki in order to create a speaking avatar (for example David Cameron).*



*Tip: Listen to your Voki many times wearing your headphones. You can even download it and listen to it at home.*

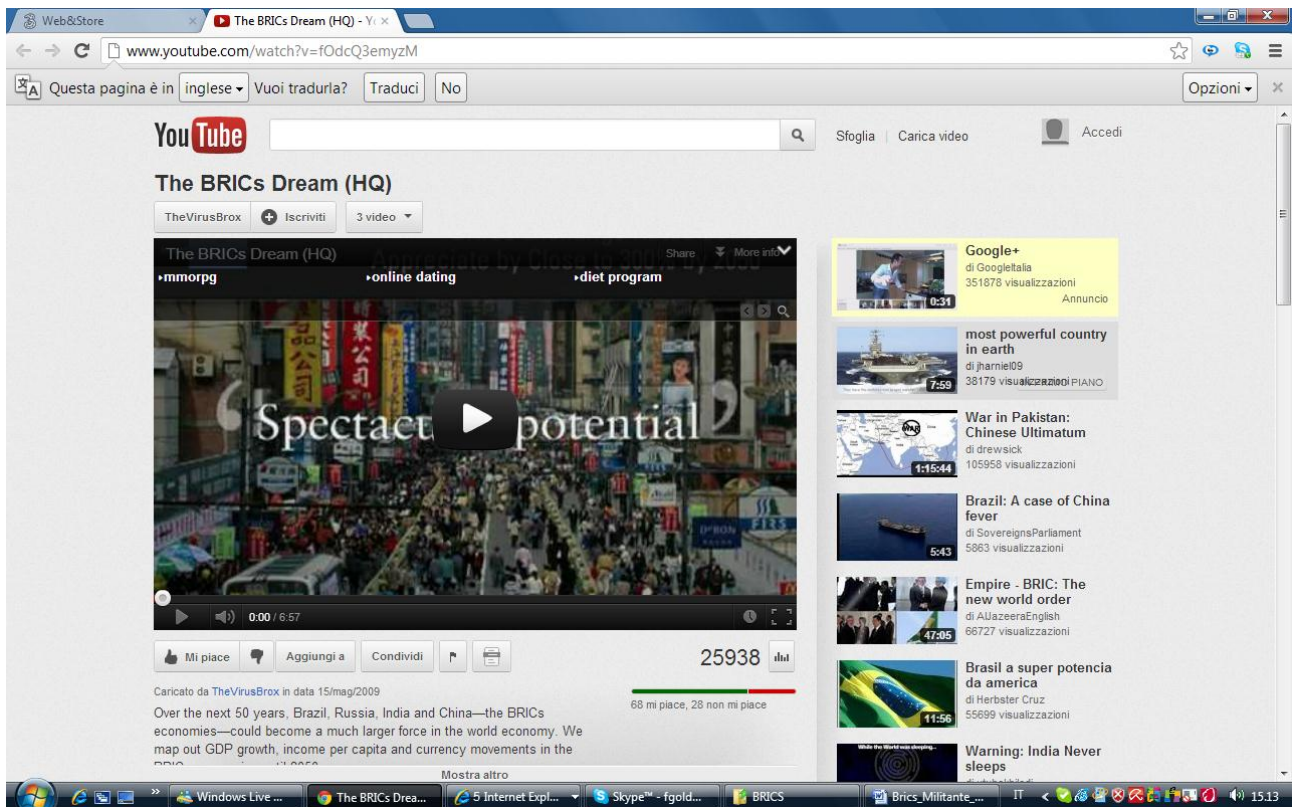
9. *Create your own audio podcast using the software Audacity. It's a free, open source software for recording and editing sounds.*



*Tip: To record your voice you need a microphone.*

**10. Watch the video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fOdcQ3emyzM> and complete the following sentences.**





Ex.

- I'm Jim O'Neil head of \_\_\_\_\_ at Goldman Sachs.
- I'm gonna talk you about the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ dream.
- Bric stands for \_\_\_\_\_.