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## **Level 5**

# **Volkswagen to recall 11 million cars**

**2nd October, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151002-volkswagen-5.html>

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**Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151002-volkswagen-5.html>

The German carmaker Volkswagen (VW) has said it will recall around 11 million cars because of the emissions tests scandal. The company is in big trouble. Some industry experts say the recall could cost the automaker more than \$6.5 billion. Last week, VW admitted cheating in emissions tests in the USA and Europe. It changed data to falsely show that VW cars were more fuel-efficient than they really are. VW is Europe's largest carmaker and employs over 750,000 people. It has lost more than a third of its market value and has damaged its image as being a leader in clean energy.

Bosses at VW could face criminal charges. A Volkswagen board member told the BBC that some staff acted criminally over emission tests. He said the people who let this happen, or who decided to install the cheating software, acted criminally. He said they must take responsibility. He added: "We only found out about the problems in the last board meeting, shortly before the media did. I want to be quite open, so we need to find out why the board wasn't informed earlier about the problems when they were known about over a year ago."

Sources: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/09/29/uk-volkswagen-emissions-plan-idUKKCN0RTOP820150929>  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/business-34397426>  
<http://www.autocar.co.uk/car-news/industry/vw-board-member-some-staff-were-warned-about-cheat-year-ago>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151002-volkswagen-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. The German                          | a. third of its market value |
| 2. recall around 11 million cars       | b. more than \$6.5 billion   |
| 3. The company is in big               | c. energy                    |
| 4. the recall could cost the automaker | d. efficient                 |
| 5. fuel-                               | e. carmaker Volkswagen       |
| 6. employs                             | f. because of the emissions  |
| 7. It has lost more than a             | g. over 750,000 people       |
| 8. a leader in clean                   | h. trouble                   |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bosses at VW could face   | a. responsibility   |
| 2. A Volkswagen board        | b. criminally       |
| 3. some staff acted          | c. open             |
| 4. the people who let        | d. criminal charges |
| 5. He said they must take    | e. earlier          |
| 6. in the last board         | f. member           |
| 7. I want to be quite        | g. meeting          |
| 8. the board wasn't informed | h. this happen      |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151002-volkswagen-5.html>

The German carmaker Volkswagen (VW) has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ around 11 million cars because of the emissions tests scandal. The company is in big trouble. Some (2) \_\_\_\_\_ say the recall could cost the automaker more than \$6.5 billion. Last week, VW admitted cheating in emissions tests in the USA and Europe. It changed data (3) \_\_\_\_\_ that VW cars were more fuel-efficient than they really are. VW is Europe's largest carmaker (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 750,000 people. It has lost more (5) \_\_\_\_\_ its market value and has damaged its image as being a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ leader in clean energy.

Bosses at VW (7) \_\_\_\_\_ charges. A Volkswagen board member told the BBC that (8) \_\_\_\_\_ criminally over emission tests. He said the people who (9) \_\_\_\_\_, or who decided to install the cheating software, acted criminally. He said they must take responsibility. He added: "We only (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the problems in the last board meeting, shortly before the media did. I want to be quite open, so we need (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the board wasn't informed (12) \_\_\_\_\_ problems when they were known about over a year ago."

# VOLKSWAGEN SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151002-volkswagen-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Volkswagen in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

*Volkswagen to recall 11 million cars – 2nd October, 2015*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

