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Level 5 – 6th September, 2021

Global semiconductor shortage hurts car industry

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210906-semiconductor-shortage-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210906-semiconductor-shortage-5.html>

The car and other industries are facing production challenges due to a shortage of semiconductors. This has caused car giant General Motors to halt production at all but four of its plants in America. The automaker owns the popular car brands Cadillac, Chevrolet and GMC. A GM spokesperson told reporters that the company is focused on resolving its supply-chain difficulties. He said: "Although the situation remains complex and very fluid, we remain confident in our team's ability to continue finding creative solutions to minimize the impact."

Semiconductors are a key part of many of the electrical products we use every day. Sony, Toyota, Ford and other multinational companies also have production problems due to the lack of supply. One reason for this is COVID-19. Staff shortages in factories that manufacture the chips have hit production. Companies will experience challenges for the foreseeable future. An analyst said: "With the shortages expected to continue until at least 2023, and no immediate solutions forthcoming, GM likely won't be the last company to change its production schedule."

Sources: <https://www.engadget.com/gm-halts-car-production-chip-shortages-200334864.html>
<https://news.sky.com/story/general-motors-halts-production-at-eight-north-american-factories-due-to-chip-shortage-12398110>
<https://thehill.com/policy/transportation/570587-gm-cutting-production-further-due-to-chip-shortage>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210906-semiconductor-shortage-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. facing production | a. complex |
| 2. due to a shortage | b. the impact |
| 3. halt | c. chain difficulties |
| 4. at all but | d. of semiconductors |
| 5. focused on resolving its supply- | e. production |
| 6. the situation remains | f. our team's ability |
| 7. we remain confident in | g. challenges |
| 8. minimize | h. four of its plants |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Semiconductors are a | a. solutions |
| 2. multinational | b. the foreseeable future |
| 3. problems due to the lack | c. schedule |
| 4. challenges for | d. companies |
| 5. expected to continue | e. key part |
| 6. no immediate | f. the last company |
| 7. GM likely won't be | g. until at least 2023 |
| 8. change its production | h. of supply |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210906-semiconductor-shortage-5.html>

The car and other (1) _____ production challenges due to a shortage of semiconductors. This has caused car giant General Motors (2) _____ at all but four of its plants in America. The automaker owns the (3) _____ Cadillac, Chevrolet and GMC. A GM spokesperson told reporters that the company (4) _____ resolving its supply-chain difficulties. He said: "Although the situation remains complex (5) _____, we remain confident in our team's ability to continue finding creative solutions to (6) _____."

Semiconductors are a (7) _____ many of the electrical products we use every day. Sony, Toyota, Ford and other multinational companies also have production (8) _____ the lack of supply. One reason for this is COVID-19. Staff shortages in (9) _____ the chips have hit production. Companies (10) _____ for the foreseeable future. An analyst said: "With the shortages expected to continue until at least 2023, and (11) _____ forthcoming, GM (12) _____ the last company to change its production schedule."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210906-semiconductor-shortage-5.html>

The car and other industries are facing production challenges due to a shortage of semiconductors. This has caused car giant General Motors to halt production at all but four of its plants in America. The automaker owns the popular car brands Cadillac, Chevrolet and GMC. AGM spokesperson told reporters that the company is focused on resolving its supply-chain difficulties. He said: "Although the situation remains complex and very fluid, we remain confident in our team's ability to continue finding creative solutions to minimize the impact." Semiconductors are a key part of many of the electrical products we use every day. Sony, Toyota, Ford and other multinational companies also have production problems due to the lack of supply. One reason for this is COVID-19. Staff shortages in factories that manufacture the chips have hit production. Companies will experience challenges for the foreseeable future. An analyst said: "With the shortages expected to continue until at least 2023, and no immediate solutions forthcoming, GM likely won't be the last company to change its production schedule."

SEMICONDUCTORS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2109/210906-semiconductor-shortage-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about semiconductors 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) _____

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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) _____

