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Level 5 – 6th August, 2021

Global timber shortage increases house prices

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210806-timber-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/2108/210806-timber-shortage-5.html>

A worldwide timber shortage is causing major problems for the housing and construction industry. The shortage has caused a sharp rise in the price of newly built homes. In some countries, the price builders pay for timber has gone up by about 25 per cent. One reason builders are struggling to get supplies is because people have been reforming their homes during lockdown. Post-lockdown construction and DIY projects have created "extraordinary demand". Timber companies said suppliers were "working around the clock" but are "struggling to keep up".

Scientists say a major reason for the shortage is climate change. This is putting pressure on the sustainability of forests. An increase in wildfires is causing damage to forests. Many have been completely burnt to the ground. The warmer weather has also increased the number of pests that cause damage to trees and stunt tree growth. Sweden is a major supplier of timber wood. It has recorded its lowest timber stocks for 20 years. The UK said it is "committed to trebling tree planting rates". A builder joked that he didn't have time for those trees to grow.

Sources: <https://indaily.com.au/news/2021/07/27/timber-shortage-threatens-to-send-builders-to-the-wall/>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-57920510>
<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/pandemic-demand-causes-unprecedented-building-supply-shortage>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210806-timber-shortage-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. the housing and | a. has gone up |
| 2. a sharp rise | b. demand |
| 3. the price builders pay for timber | c. keep up |
| 4. builders are struggling | d. lockdown |
| 5. reforming their homes during | e. around the clock |
| 6. projects have created extraordinary | f. in the price |
| 7. suppliers were working | g. construction industry |
| 8. struggling to | h. to get supplies |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. a major reason | a. stocks for 20 years |
| 2. the sustainability of | b. burnt to the ground |
| 3. Many have been completely | c. planting rates |
| 4. the number of pests that cause | d. forests |
| 5. Sweden is a major supplier | e. trees to grow |
| 6. recorded its lowest timber | f. for the shortage |
| 7. committed to trebling tree | g. of timber wood |
| 8. he didn't have time for those | h. damage to trees |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210806-timber-shortage-5.html>

A worldwide timber (1) _____ major problems for the housing and construction industry. The shortage has caused a sharp rise in the (2) _____ built homes. In some countries, the price builders pay for timber has (3) _____ about 25 per cent. One reason builders are struggling to get supplies is because people (4) _____ their homes during lockdown. Post-lockdown construction and (5) _____ created "extraordinary demand". Timber companies said suppliers were "working around the clock" but are "(6) _____ up".

Scientists say a major reason for the shortage is climate change. This is (7) _____ the sustainability of forests. An increase in wildfires is causing damage to forests. Many have been (8) _____ the ground. The warmer weather has also increased the (9) _____ that cause damage to trees and stunt tree growth. Sweden is a (10) _____ timber wood. It has recorded its lowest timber stocks for 20 years. The UK said it is "committed (11) _____ planting rates". A builder joked that he didn't have time for those (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210806-timber-shortage-5.html>

A world-wide timber shortage is causing major problems for the housing and construction industry. The shortage has caused a sharp rise in the price of newly built homes. In some countries, the price builders pay for timber has gone up by about 25 percent. One reason builders are struggling to get supplies is because people have been reforming their homes during lockdown. Post-lockdown construction and DIY projects have created "extraordinary demand". Timber companies said suppliers were "working around the clock" but are "struggling to keep up". Scientists say a major reason for the shortage is climate change. This is putting pressure on the sustainability of forests. An increase in wildfires is causing damage to forests. Many have been completely burnt to the ground. The warmer weather has also increased the number of pests that caused damage to trees and stunt tree growth. Sweden is a major supplier of timber wood. It has recorded its lowest timber stocks for 20 years. The UK said it is "committed to trebling tree planting rates". A builder joked that he didn't have time for those trees to grow.

WOOD SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210806-timber-shortage-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about wood 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210806-timber-shortage-5.html>

Write about **wood** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
