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Level 4 – 6th September, 2021

Global semiconductor shortage hurts car industry

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

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

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

The car industry is facing production challenges due to a shortage of semiconductors. General Motors (GM) has halted production at many of its plants in America. A GM spokesperson told reporters that the company is focused on resolving its supply-chain difficulties. He said it was a complex and "fluid" situation, but he remains confident in the company's ability to find "creative solutions to minimize the impact".

Semiconductors are a key part of many products we use every day. Other multinational companies also have the same supply problems. One reason is staff shortages from COVID-19. Factories that manufacture the chips have been affected. An analyst said the shortages will continue until at least 2023. He said there were no immediate solutions. He added: "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-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. facing production | a. chain difficulties |
| 2. due to a shortage | b. production |
| 3. General Motors (GM) has halted | c. the impact |
| 4. many of its plants | d. "fluid" situation |
| 5. focused on resolving its supply- | e. challenges |
| 6. it was a complex and | f. ability |
| 7. he remains confident in the company's | g. in America |
| 8. creative solutions to minimize | h. of semiconductors |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. semiconductors are a | a. companies |
| 2. multinational | b. schedule |
| 3. staff | c. until at least 2023 |
| 4. Factories that manufacture | d. shortages |
| 5. shortages will continue | e. last company |
| 6. He said there were no immediate | f. key part |
| 7. GM likely won't be the | g. the chips |
| 8. change its production | h. solutions |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

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

The car (1) _____ production challenges due to a shortage of semiconductors. General Motors (GM) (2) _____ at many of its plants in America. A GM spokesperson told reporters that the company is (3) _____ its supply-chain difficulties. He said it was a (4) _____ situation, but (5) _____ in the company's ability to find "creative solutions to (6) _____".

Semiconductors are a (7) _____ many products we use every day. Other multinational companies also have (8) _____ problems. One reason is (9) _____ COVID-19. Factories that manufacture the chips (10) _____. An analyst said the shortages will continue until at least 2023. He said there were (11) _____. He added: "GM likely won't be the (12) _____ change its production schedule."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

The car industry is facing production challenges due to a shortage of semi-conductors. General Motors (GM) has halted production at many of its plants in America. A GM spokesperson told reporters that the company is focused on resolving its supply-chain difficulties. He said it was a complex and "fluid" situation, but he remains confident in the company's ability to find "creative solutions to minimize the impact". Semiconductors are a key part of many products we use every day. Other multinational companies also have the same supply problems. One reason is staff shortages from COVID-19. Factories that manufacture the chips have been affected. An analyst said the shortages will continue until at least 2023. He said there were no immediate solutions. He added: "GM likely won't be the last company to change its production schedule."

INSECTS 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) _____

