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Level 4 – 12th October 2026

China agrees to halve hybrid car exports to EU

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2610/261012-hybrid-car-exports-4.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

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

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2026/10/261012-hybrid-car-exports-4.html>

China will halve exports of hybrid cars to the European Union. Both sides were seeking to avoid a harmful trade war. The EU said the agreement could stop millions of cars from entering the EU. It said "negotiations bring results". EU carmakers are struggling to compete with cheaper Chinese imports. They are worried that China's rise could lead to factory closures and job losses. Despite these concerns, the EU said there could be better trade relations.

China is now a major player in the global car industry and has a foothold in many markets. The country's car companies are leaders in hybrid technology. They make competitively priced cars that are reliable and have good build quality. Motorists see them as more affordable alternatives to European brands. Sales of Chinese cars now make up around 10 per cent of the new car market in the EU. In the UK, this figure is nearly 20 per cent.

Sources: <https://amp.dw.com/en/china-eu-reach-deal-to-moderate-chinas-car-exports-to-eu/a-79621394>
<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2026/oct/09/china-agrees-to-curb-hybrid-car-exports-to-eu-in-landmark-deal>
<https://www.ft.com/content/2823ef6f-b3d7-494b-b131-414c02d6a59f>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2610/261012-hybrid-car-exports-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. halve exports | a. to factory closures |
| 2. avoid a harmful | b. stop millions of cars |
| 3. the agreement could | c. imports |
| 4. EU carmakers are struggling | d. relations |
| 5. cheaper Chinese | e. concerns |
| 6. China's rise could lead | f. to compete |
| 7. despite these | g. of hybrid cars |
| 8. there could be better trade | h. trade war |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. China is now a major | a. affordable alternatives |
| 2. the global car | b. in many markets |
| 3. a foothold | c. market in the EU |
| 4. leaders in hybrid | d. priced cars |
| 5. They make competitively | e. player |
| 6. Motorists see them as more | f. brands |
| 7. European | g. industry |
| 8. 10 per cent of the new car | h. technology |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2610/261012-hybrid-car-exports-4.html>

China will halve exports of hybrid cars to the European Union. Both sides were (1) _____ a harmful trade war. The EU said the agreement could stop millions of (2) _____ the EU. It said "(3) _____. EU carmakers are struggling to (4) _____ Chinese imports. They are worried that China's rise could lead to (5) _____ job losses. Despite these concerns, the EU said there could be (6) _____.

China is now a (7) _____ the global car industry and has (8) _____ many markets. The country's car companies (9) _____ hybrid technology. They make competitively priced cars that (10) _____ have good build quality. Motorists see them as (11) _____ to European brands. Sales of Chinese cars now make up around 10 per cent of the new car market in the EU. In the UK, this (12) _____ 20 per cent.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2020/202012-hybrid-car-exports-4.html>

China will halve exports of hybrid cars to the European Union. Both sides were seeking to avoid a harmful trade war. The EU said the agreement could stop millions of cars from entering the EU. It said "negotiations bring results". EU carmakers are struggling to compete with cheaper Chinese imports. They are worried that China's rise could lead to factory closures and job losses. Despite these concerns, the EU said there could be better trade relations. China is now a major player in the global car industry and has a foothold in many markets. The country's car companies are leaders in hybrid technology. They make competitively priced cars that are reliable and have good build quality. Motorists see them as a more affordable alternative to European brands. Sales of Chinese cars now make up around 10 percent of the new car market in the EU. In the UK, this figure is nearly 20 percent.

HYBRID CARS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2610/261012-hybrid-car-exports-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about hybrid cars 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/2010/261012-hybrid-car-exports-4.html>

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

[illegible]