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Level 5 – 23rd November 2026

U.S. brings an end to production of one-cent coin

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261123-penny-coin-5.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 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261123-penny-coin-5.html

The U.S. has stopped producing its one-cent coin after President Donald Trump signed the Common Cents Act. However, the coin will remain legal tender and continue circulating. The US Mint actually stopped manufacturing the penny in November 2025. Businesses now have to round cash transactions up or down to the nearest five cents when change is unavailable. The decision to discontinue the penny was an economic one. In 2024, each coin cost 3.69 cents to produce. The bill's author said: "This legislation will save $85 million per year....It's common sense."

The penny's history dates back to the founding years of the USA. Congress established the US Mint in 1792. A year later, the mint made more than 11,000 one-cent coins. The penny saw numerous design changes. Early designs included an image of Liberty and a Native American chief's headdress. In 1909, it featured a portrait of President Abraham Lincoln to commemorate the centenary of his birth. Rising manufacturing costs have gradually undermined the coin's viability. Wikipedia stated that the coin was eventually "viewed as a burden" to businesses, government, and the public.

Sources: https://www.**cbsnews.com**/news/trump-signs-common-cents-act-into-law/
https://www.**aol.com**/articles/trump-formally-ends-minting-penny-033250000.html
https://en.**wikipedia.org**/wiki/Penny_(United_States_coin)

PHRASE MATCHING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261123-penny-coin-5.html

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1. The U.S. has stopped producing	a. save $85 million
2. the coin will remain legal	b. unavailable
3. Businesses now have to round cash	c. to produce
4. when change is	d. its one-cent coin
5. The decision to discontinue	e. transactions up
6. each coin cost 3.69 cents	f. tender
7. This legislation will	g. sense
8. It's common	h. the penny

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1. The penny's history dates back to	a. costs
2. Congress established the	b. design changes
3. The penny saw numerous	c. headdress
4. Early designs included	d. the founding years
5. a Native American chief's	e. of his birth
6. commemorate the centenary	f. burden to businesses
7. manufacturing	g. US Mint in 1792
8. viewed as a	h. an image of Liberty

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261123-penny-coin-5.html

The U.S. has (1) _____ one-cent coin after President Donald Trump signed the Common Cents Act. However, the coin will (2) _____ and continue circulating. The US Mint actually stopped manufacturing the penny in November 2025. Businesses now have to round (3) _____ or down to the nearest five cents when (4) _____. The decision to discontinue the penny was (5) _____. In 2024, each coin cost 3.69 cents to produce. The bill's author said: "This legislation will save $85 million per year.... (6) _____."

The penny's history (7) _____ the founding years of the USA. Congress established the US Mint in 1792. A year later, the (8) _____ than 11,000 one-cent coins. The penny saw (9) _____. Early designs included an image of Liberty and a Native American chief's headdress. In 1909, it (10) _____ of President Abraham Lincoln to commemorate the centenary of his birth. Rising manufacturing costs have (11) _____ coin's viability. Wikipedia stated that the coin was eventually "viewed (12) _____" to businesses, government, and the public.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261123-penny-coin-5.html

TheU.S.hasstoppedproducingitsone-centcoinafterPresidentDonal
dTrumpsignedtheCommonCentsAct.However,thecoinwillremainleg
altenderandcontinuecirculating.TheUSMintactuallystoppedmanufac
turingthepennyinNovember2025.Businessesnowhavetoroundcasht
ransactionsupordowntothenearestfivecentswhenchangeisunavaila
ble.Thedecisiontodiscontinuethepennywasaneconomicone.In2024,
eachcoincost3.69centstoproduce.Thebill'sauthorsaid:"Thislegislati
onwillsave$85millionperyear....It'scommonsense."Thepenny'shist
orydatesbacktothefoundingyearsoftheUSA.Congressestablishedthe
USMintin1792.Ayearlater,themintmademorethan11,000one-centc
oins.Thepennysawnumerousdesignchanges.Earlydesignsincludeda
nimageofLibertyandaNativeAmericanchief'sheaddress.In1909,itfea
turedaportraitofPresidentAbrahamLincolntocommemoratethecente
naryofhisbirth.Risingmanufacturingcostshavegraduallyundermined
thecoin'sviability.Wikipediastatedthatthecoinwaseventually"viewe
dasaburden"tobusinesses,government,andthepublic.

COINS SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261123-penny-coin-4.html

Write five GOOD questions about coins 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/2611/261123-penny-coin-5.html

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