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Level 4 – 6th August, 2021

Global timber shortage increases house prices

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

A global timber shortage is causing problems for the housing industry. It has caused a sharp rise in the price of new houses. In some countries, the price of timber has gone up by 25 per cent. One reason for this is because people have been reforming their homes during lockdown. DIY stores say home projects have created "extraordinary demand". They said suppliers were "working around the clock" but are "struggling to keep up".

A major reason for the timber shortage is climate change. In addition, an increase in wildfires is destroying forests. Many have been completely burnt to the ground. The warmer weather has also increased the number of pests that damage or kill trees. Sweden is a major supplier of timber wood. It has its lowest timber stocks for 20 years. The UK 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-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. A global timber shortage is | a. the clock |
| 2. the housing | b. price of new houses |
| 3. a sharp rise in the | c. their homes |
| 4. the price of timber | d. keep up |
| 5. people have been reforming | e. has gone up |
| 6. projects have created extraordinary | f. industry |
| 7. working around | g. demand |
| 8. struggling to | h. causing problems |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. A major reason for the | a. for 20 years |
| 2. an increase in wildfires | b. to the ground |
| 3. completely burnt | c. those trees to grow |
| 4. increased the number | d. is destroying forests |
| 5. Sweden is a major supplier | e. timber shortage |
| 6. It has its lowest timber stocks | f. tree planting rates |
| 7. committed to trebling | g. of pests |
| 8. he didn't have time for | h. of timber wood |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

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

A global timber (1) _____ problems for the housing industry. It has caused a (2) _____ the price of new houses. In some countries, the (3) _____ has gone up by 25 per cent. One reason for this is because people have been reforming their (4) _____. DIY stores say home projects have created "extraordinary demand". (5) _____ were "working around the clock" but are "(6) _____ up".

A major reason for the timber (7) _____ change. In addition, an (8) _____ is destroying forests. Many have been (9) _____ the ground. The warmer weather has also increased the (10) _____ that damage or kill trees.

Sweden is a major supplier of timber wood. It has its (11) _____ for 20 years. The UK is "committed to trebling tree planting rates". A builder joked that he didn't have time (12) _____ to grow.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

A global timber shortage is causing problems for the housing industry. It has caused a sharp rise in the price of new houses. In some countries, the price of timber has gone up by 25 percent. One reason for this is because people have been reforming their homes during lockdown. DIY stores say some projects have created "extraordinary demand". They said suppliers were "working around the clock" but are "struggling to keep up". A major reason for the timber shortage is climate change. In addition, an increase in wildfires is destroying forests. Many have been completely burnt to the ground. The warmer weather has also increased the number of pests that damage or kill trees. Sweden is a major supplier of timber wood. It has its lowest timber stocks for 20 years. The UK is "committed to trebling tree planting rates". A builder joked that he didn't have time for those trees to grow.

W.

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) _____

