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Level 5 – 16th February, 2019

Airbus to end production of A380 airplane

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190216-airbus-a380-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190216-airbus-a380-5.html>

The airplane maker Airbus plans to cease production of its famous A380 aircraft. It is the world's largest passenger airplane. When it was launched 12 years ago, people said it was the future of aviation. However, changes in how people fly mean the days of four-engine passenger planes are over. Airbus decided to stop to production of the 544-seat A380 because of falling sales. The end came when Dubai's Emirates Airlines cut its A380 order by 39 planes. Airbus will stop building the A380 in 2021. There will be big job losses at companies that help make the plane.

The A380 first flew in April 2005. The British Prime Minister Tony Blair called it a "symbol of economic strength". Spain's leader said the plane was "a dream". The plane was designed to help cut the number of planes at busy airports. However, increased air travel means there is more demand for twin-engine planes that can fly non-stop to where people want to go. Four-engine planes usually require passengers to change at hub airports. An Emirates spokesperson said the A380 was a "passenger magnet". He said the plane was badly marketed by other airlines.

Sources: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-airbus-a380-history-analysis/airbus-a380-from-european-dream-to-white-elephant-idUSKCN1Q30K4>
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/airbus-will-stop-building-its-a380-superjumbo-jet-11550121699>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2019/02/14/business/a380-airbus-news-emirates/index.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190216-airbus-a380-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Airbus plans to cease | a. planes are over |
| 2. It is the world's largest | b. losses |
| 3. it was launched | c. of aviation |
| 4. it was the future | d. make the plane |
| 5. the days of four-engine passenger | e. passenger airplane |
| 6. Airbus will stop building | f. production |
| 7. There will be big job | g. 12 years ago |
| 8. companies that help | h. the A380 in 2021 |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. a symbol of economic | a. engine planes |
| 2. cut the number of planes | b. to change |
| 3. increased air | c. at busy airports |
| 4. more demand for twin- | d. by other airlines |
| 5. fly non- | e. travel |
| 6. require passengers | f. "passenger magnet" |
| 7. the A380 was a | g. stop |
| 8. the plane was badly marketed | h. strength |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190216-airbus-a380-5.html>

The airplane maker Airbus (1) _____ production of its famous A380 aircraft. It is the world's largest passenger airplane. When (2) _____ 12 years ago, people said it was the (3) _____. However, changes in how people fly mean the days of four-engine passenger planes are over. Airbus (4) _____ to production of the 544-seat A380 because of falling sales. The end came when Dubai's Emirates Airlines cut its A380 order (5) _____. Airbus will stop building the A380 in 2021. There will be big job losses at companies that help (6) _____.

The A380 (7) _____ April 2005. The British Prime Minister Tony Blair called it a "symbol of economic strength". Spain's leader said the plane (8) _____. The plane was designed to help cut (9) _____ planes at busy airports. However, increased air travel means there is more demand for twin-engine planes that (10) _____ to where people want to go. Four-engine planes usually require passengers to change (11) _____. An Emirates spokesperson said the A380 was a "passenger magnet". He said the plane was badly marketed (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190216-airbus-a380-5.html>

TheairplanemakerAirbusplanstoceaseproductionofitsfamousA380aircraft.Itistheworld'slargestpassengerairplane.Whenitwaslaunched12yearsago,peoplesaiditwasthefutureofaviation.However,changesinhowpeopleflymeanthedaysoffour-enginepassengerplanesareover.Airbusdecidedtostoptoproductionofthe544-seatA380becauseoffallingsales.TheendcamewhenDubai'sEmiratesAirlinescutitsA380orderby39planes.AirbuswillstopbuildingtheA380in2021.Therewillbebigjoblossesatcompaniesthathelpmaketheplane.TheA380firstflewinApril2005.TheBritishPrimeMinisterTonyBlaircalledita"symbolofeconomicstrength".Spain'sleadersaidtheplanewas"adream".Theplanewasdesignedtohelpcutthenumberofplanesatbusyairports.However,increasedairtravelmeansthereismoredemandfortwin-engineplanesthatcanflynon-stopwherepeoplewanttogo.Four-engineplanesusuallyrequirepassengerstochangeathubairports.AnEmiratesspokespersonsaidtheA380wasa"passengermagnet".Hesaidtheplanewasbadlymarketedbyotherairlines.

AIRPLANES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190216-airbus-a380-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Airplanes 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) _____

