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Level 4 – 25th May, 2020

Car rental group Hertz files for bankruptcy

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200525-bankruptcy-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/2005/200525-bankruptcy-4.html>

Hertz has filed for bankruptcy protection. The world's second largest car rental company has 10,200 franchises worldwide. It is one of the biggest companies to file for bankruptcy during COVID-19. It has furloughed about half of its global workforce after rentals dried up. It said: "The impact of the pandemic on travel demand was sudden and dramatic, causing an abrupt decline in...revenue and future bookings." Hertz has over \$18 billion of debt on its books.

Hertz started in 1923 when John Hertz pioneered a "drive yourself" system. He started with 12 Model T Ford cars. His mission was, "to be the most customer-focused, cost-efficient vehicle...rental company." CNN said the pandemic has hurt the car rental industry. It said, "rentals have been "devastated by the plunge in travel since the pandemic hit". It said nearly two-thirds of revenue comes from rentals at airport locations and that air travel has "fallen sharply".

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/05/22/business/hertz-bankruptcy/index.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-52780841>
<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/hertz-files-for-bankruptcy-protection-as-coronavirus-crisis-slams-car-rental-business-2020-05-22>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200525-bankruptcy-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Hertz has filed for bankruptcy | a. decline in revenue |
| 2. 10,200 franchises | b. on travel |
| 3. after rentals dried | c. on its books |
| 4. The impact of the pandemic | d. worldwide |
| 5. sudden and | e. bookings |
| 6. an abrupt | f. protection |
| 7. future | g. dramatic |
| 8. Hertz has over \$18 billion of debt | h. up |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Hertz pioneered a drive | a. in travel |
| 2. His mission was to be the most | b. vehicle |
| 3. cost-efficient | c. sharply |
| 4. devastated by the plunge | d. hit |
| 5. since the pandemic | e. locations |
| 6. nearly two-thirds | f. yourself system |
| 7. airport | g. customer-focused |
| 8. air travel has fallen | h. of revenue |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200525-bankruptcy-4.html>

Hertz (1) _____ bankruptcy protection. The world's second largest car rental company has 10,200 franchises worldwide. It is one of the biggest companies to file for bankruptcy during COVID-19. (2) _____ about half of its global workforce after (3) _____. It said: "The impact of the pandemic on travel demand was (4) _____, causing an abrupt (5) _____ and future bookings." Hertz has over \$18 billion (6) _____ its books.

Hertz started in 1923 when John Hertz pioneered a (7) _____. He started with 12 Model T Ford cars. His mission was, "to be the (8) _____, cost-efficient vehicle...rental company." CNN said the pandemic has hurt the (9) _____. It said, "rentals have been "devastated (10) _____ in travel since the pandemic hit". It said nearly two-thirds (11) _____ from rentals at airport locations and that air travel (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200525-bankruptcy-4.html>

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BANKRUPTCY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200525-bankruptcy-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bankruptcy 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/2005/200525-bankruptcy-4.html>

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