

Fill in the blanks : choose the appropriate verb tense!!

Business

Global stock markets 1 (slide) again on fears over the spread of Coronavirus. Markets in Europe 2 (take) a big hit on Thursday and were followed down by Wall Street with financial stocks, travel and airlines and consumer products all falling heavily. As well as fears about the spread of the virus, there 3 (be) increasing concerns about the effect on the global economy with supply chains drying up and consumers not spending. Leading economists 4 (warn) that many countries including big industrialized nations could face recession unless the virus is contained quickly which 5 (seem) unlikely given the current projections. Shares in Cineworld 6 (plunge) by 17 percent with the virus threatening to keep people away from movie theatres as the release of the new James Bond film was put back until November. Estimates 7 (suggest) that Coronavirus could impact the global box office by as much as 5 billion dollars.

Opec says that the threat of a global recession could halve expected oil demand in the first half of this year. The producers cartel and its allies 8 (agree) the deepest production cuts since the financial crisis of 2008. At a meeting in Vienna, Opec 9 (say) it was planning to deepen production cuts of 2.1 million barrels a day by a further 1.5 million barrels or 3.6 percent of global supplies from next month.

The UK retailer John Lewis 10 (warn) that some stores may have to close as it announced its lowest employee bonus for 67 years. Staff at John Lewis and supermarket chain Waitrose 11 (receive) an annual bonus of only 2 percent this year after the firm reported a 23 percent drop in profits. The John Lewis Partnership said that it will be considering further store closures and reducing the size of some sites as part of a strategic review which is expected to be completed in the autumn. The firm said that annual profits 12 (fall) to 123 million pounds in the year to the 25th of January.

Article published on Radio Riviera internet site.(March 2020)

Useful vocabulary: find the following words in the article. (they will appear as you read)

glisser= to _____

biens de consommation= _____

en augmentation= _____

les consommateurs= _____

faire face à = to _____ something(sth)

improbable= _____

plonger de = to _____ by

la sortie (film/livre)= the _____

réduire de moitié= to _____

un petit commerçant= a _____

l'entreprise= the _____

la propagation= the _____

lourdement= _____

chaînes logistiques= _____

dépenser (argent)= to _____

à moins que = _____

les parts/les actions= _____

menacer= to _____

reporter/repousser= to _____ sth

être d'accord= to _____ (with somebody)

une chute/baisse= a _____

les bénéfices= _____