Business sectors

2 Complete the sentences using the words and phrases in the box.

agriculture	construction	cruise ships	health care
insurance	metal extraction	oil drilling	raw materials

1 One of Saudi Arabia's key industrial activities is _____ and refining.

2 France is still very economically dependent on _____ so its farmers are very important.

3 Australia has developed efficient techniques for _____ which means the raw material can be mined quickly.

4 Croatia has expanded two of its ports so_____ can include them in their itineraries.

5 A big problem for this century will be _____ for older people who are living longer.

6 Brazil exports _____ to China who use them for manufacturing.

7 In Qatar, the _____ industry is expanding as they continue to need new hotels and malls.

8 The financial sector in the UK continues to grow, particularly _____ as companies need to cover their commercial risks.

3 Choose the odd one out. Then match groups 1–6 to categories a–f.

1	**a** hotel chain	**b** airline	**c** bank	**d** campsite
2	**a** coal mining	**b** wine producing	**c** gas extraction	**d** oil drilling
3	**a** car plant	**b** steel factory	**c** furniture maker	**d** farm
4	**a** book shop	**b** factory	**c** supermarket	**d** restaurant
5	**a** metal extraction	**b** fishing	**c** robotics	**d** agriculture
6	**a** chemical plant	**b** insurance company	**c** credit card company	**d** bank

a finance ___ **d** manufacturing ___

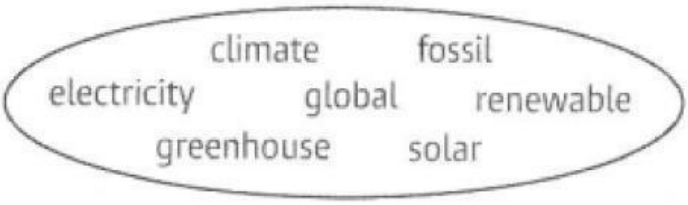
b retail ___ **e** raw material extraction ___

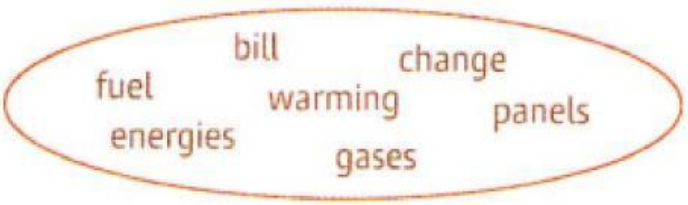
c primary sector ___ **f** tourism ___

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The energy industry

1 **Match words from each circle to form compound nouns.**





2A **Complete the questions with a compound noun from Exercise 1.**

1 Can you name two types of traditional and _____ ?
2 What are some of the advantages of installing _____ on your home?
3 Which of these is not a _____ ? Coal, gas, oil, wood.
4 Do you think _____ is affecting the weather where you live? How?

3.

Mark Nowicki

So, it was snowing all last night, and at about nine o'clock we were just watching TV when suddenly all the electricity went out. These power cuts sometimes happen when there's a big storm. While I was sitting in the dark, I thought we really must do something about this.

Look at the social media post on the left. What was the problem and what do you think Mark did about it?

Read the first paragraph of the article and check your predictions.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. Match the words with their correct definitions.

1. Embrace renewable energy
2. Tax incentives
3. Decline costs
4. Mainstream choice
5. Outages
6. Carbon footprint
7. A broad shift
8. Acquire
9. Be driven by
10. Carbon emissions
11. Surpass
12. Milestone
13. Sustainable energy
14. Crucial
15. Accelerate
16. Reliance
17. Committed to

Definitions:

A. A big or important change in society or industry

B. Reduce expenses over time

C. A power failure or disruption in electricity supply

D. The total amount of greenhouse gases produced by an individual or company

E. To go beyond or exceed something

F. To officially take ownership of a company or asset

G. A very important achievement or event

H. To support or welcome the use of renewable power sources

I. Government financial benefits encouraging eco-friendly investments

J. Energy sources that do not run out and do not harm the environment

K. A widely accepted or common option

L. The amount of CO_2 released into the atmosphere

M. Being motivated or influenced by something

N. Increase speed or intensity of something

O. Completely dedicated to a cause or goal

P. The dependence on something, usually for support or resources

Q. Extremely important or necessary

5. Read the article and answer the questions.

1) Why did Mark Nowicki decide to install solar panels on his house? What were the benefits for him?
2) How have major oil companies like TotalEnergies, BP, and Shell adapted to the shift toward renewable energy?
3) What factors are driving the global transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy?
4) What challenges do oil companies face when deciding whether to invest in renewables or continue relying on fossil fuels?
5) Why was 2024 a significant milestone in the energy industry?
6) What are some potential consequences if oil companies do not transition to renewable energy?
7) In your opinion, should governments enforce stricter policies to accelerate the transition to sustainable energy? Why or why not?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Big Oil: From Black to Green



Mark Nowicki installed solar panels on his roof last week, joining millions of American homeowners and businesses **embracing** renewable energy. With federal tax **incentives** and **declining** installation costs, solar energy has become a **mainstream choice**. He uses solar power as a backup during **outages** and to cut electricity bills, with the added benefit of reducing his **carbon footprint**.

However, what Nowicki may not realize is the **broader shift** happening in the energy industry. His solar panels were produced by NextEra Energy, now one of the world's largest renewable energy firms. Traditional oil giants like TotalEnergies, Shell, and BP have also intensified their investments in solar, wind, and battery storage, reshaping the energy sector.

Over the past decade, major oil companies have made record investments in renewables. TotalEnergies, which **acquired** a majority stake in SunPower in the early 2020s, has now committed over $10 billion annually to clean energy projects. Similarly, BP and Shell have expanded their portfolios, targeting net-zero emissions by 2050.

The shift **is driven by** growing global climate commitments and stricter regulations on **carbon emissions**. In 2024, global renewable energy capacity **surpassed** fossil fuels for the first time, marking a significant **milestone** in the transition to **sustainable energy**.

At the same time, oil and gas companies face a **crucial** decision: Should they **accelerate** their transition to renewables or maintain their **reliance** on traditional fossil fuels? Some firms, like ExxonMobil and Chevron, remain **committed to** oil and gas, banking on sustained global demand. Others, like Equinor and Ørsted, have repositioned themselves as leaders in offshore wind and hydrogen technology.

Despite this transition, the world still relies heavily on fossil fuels. Global energy demand continues to rise, especially in emerging economies. The question remains whether oil giants will successfully balance profitability with sustainability or if new energy players will take the lead.

One thing is certain: The decisions made by Big Oil today will shape the future of energy, the economy, and the climate for decades to come.

6 Discuss the questions.

1 In what ways does it make good or bad business sense for big oil companies to move into renewable energies?

2 Why do you think the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energies will be slow?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Pronunciation practice of compound nouns

1 Choose the compound nouns and noun phrases which have a different stress pattern from the others.

1	**a** energy industry	**b** renewable energy	**c** tax deduction
2	**a** energy supply	**b** green energy	**c** oil company
3	**a** business sense	**b** design school	**c** future risk
4	**a** blog post	**b** job interview	**c** nightmare journey
5	**a** business partner	**b** long-term transition	**c** train station

3 Practise saying these sentences.

1 Solar panels can reduce electricity bills.

2 To stop global warming and climate change, we have to cut emissions of greenhouse gases.

3 The energy industry still relies far too much on fossil fuels.

4 If there isn't a reliable energy supply, power cuts are inevitable.

Pay attention to the stress and intonation in the first word, then read both words as one word

1. parking lot
2. parking ticket
3. parking meter
4. parking space
5. book shelf
6. book cover
7. book store
8. bookmark
9. credit card
10. post card
11. report card
12. green card
13. football
14. baseball
15. ballpark
16. ballroom

Highlight the first word in the given compound nouns

1. cell phone number
2. football game
3. bedroom furniture
4. high school girl
5. basketball coach
6. blood pressure medicine
7. website address
8. parking lot attendant

LIVEWORKSHEETS

When a noun follows an adjective, the noun is always emphasized.

1. nice day
2. big house
3. small room
4. long time
5. blue eyes
6. good job
7. old man
8. first grade

When two adjectives come before a noun, the first adjective and the noun are emphasized. The noun is strongly emphasized.

1. big blue bus
2. really nice day
3. short black hair
4. nice old man
5. cute little girl
6. big brown eyes

Let's practice

1. He's got big blue eyes and short black hair.
2. The nice young man helped the little old lady.
3. The big blue bus passed the little white car.
4. The rich young man bought that big old house.

Word combinations for practice. Emphasize the words in italics.

1. *swimming* pool - deep *pool*
2. *drug* store - large *store*
3. *news*paper - new *paper*
4. *credit* card - plastic *card*
5. *sun*glasses - nice *glasses*
6. *post*man - tall *man*
7. *bus* driver - fast *driver*
8. *text*book - good *book*
9. *palm* tree - tall *tree*
10. *finger*nails - long *nails*
11. *girl*friend - great *friend*

Let's practice

1. They had a good time playing football.
2. I bought some sunglasses at the new store.
3. My hairdresser has blond hair.
4. The postman brought me an important letter.
5. That salesman is a very nice man.
6. Her large apartment is on the third floor of that apartment building.
7. I left my cell phone in the front seat of my friend's car.
8. Let's go see the new film at the movie theater.

LIVEWORKSHEETS