A cyberattack disrupts French supermarkets (12th November 2026) **easy**

An October cyberattack affected about 700 French supermarkets. The people behind the attack changed the (1) _____ on fridges and freezers from a distance. Instead of staying cold, the units began to heat up. Frozen products started to (2) _____, and staff could no longer (3) _____ them safely to customers. For shops, this meant a loss of (4) _____. French officials said a group linked to Iran was (5) _____ for the attack. Iran (6) _____ the accusation. The incident showed that even a machine used to (7) _____ food overnight can become a (8) _____.

denied
stock
thaw
store
target
sell
settings
responsible

The incident was a warning for organisations that rely on connected (9) _____. In a separate case, hackers tried to change the temperature at French blood banks. That attack was stopped before it could (10) _____ blood supplies. A computer problem can therefore have (11) _____ effects. Experts say essential (12) _____, including hospitals and electricity networks, may also be at risk. A business can (13) _____ the danger by checking which devices it connects to the internet. It can install security (14) _____ and set up (15) _____ for unusual temperatures. Such measures can help staff (16) _____ sooner.

updates
physical
services
reduce
alerts
damage
respond
equipment

EXERCISE 2: True or False

1. The attack affected about 700 French supermarkets. T / F
2. Shops could still sell the affected food safely. T / F
3. France and Iran agreed about who carried out the attack. T / F
4. The attack made supermarket cooling equipment warmer. T / F
5. The attack on blood banks damaged blood supplies. T / F
6. Electricity networks are among the services that could be at risk. T / F
7. Installing security updates can help lower the risk. T / F
8. The suggested alerts would report changes in prices. T / F

EXERCISE 3: Synonym Match

1. settings	a. goods kept for sale
2. thaw	b. lower
3. stock	c. necessary
4. responsible	d. set values
5. denied	e. to blame
6. target	f. said it was false
7. damage	g. defrost
8. essential	h. react
9. reduce	i. harm
10. respond	j. object of an attack

Reporting Associated Press

© 2026 ADVANX · Design and branding. Personal, non-commercial study only.
Republication, redistribution and commercial use require prior written permission from ADVANX.

A pizza dispute reaches a workplace tribunal (9th November 2026) — **difficult**

At a restaurant in Brisbane, a customer's request for ham and pineapple pizza became a workplace dispute. Davide Tamburella, the Italian head chef, felt the topping went against his culinary (1) _____. Management asked him to prepare the dish for a private (2) _____. It was the third time he had (3) _____ to make it. The owner treated the refusal as one of several concerns about the chef's (4) _____, including how he dealt with colleagues during (5) _____. The restaurant (6) _____ him in May. He challenged the (7) _____ at Australia's Fair Work Commission, but he had missed the deadline to (8) _____ his case.

event
dismissed
service
tradition
conduct
decision
file
declined

The commission ruled that his (9) _____ had come in too late and refused to grant an (10) _____. Its decision dealt with timing and did not (11) _____ whether the employer had acted fairly. Tamburella later found (12) _____ at another Italian restaurant. The story illustrates a (13) _____ between a chef's idea of authenticity and customers' expectations. A cook in Canada is generally (14) _____ with creating Hawaiian pizza in 1962. The (15) _____ of ham and pineapple still divides opinion, yet the dish remains a familiar menu (16) _____ in many countries.

credited
item
employment
settle
application
clash
extension
combination

EXERCISE 2: True or False

1. The disputed order was for a takeaway customer. T / F
2. The chef felt the topping went against his culinary tradition. T / F
3. Management said it had several concerns about the chef's conduct. T / F
4. The restaurant dismissed the chef in November. T / F
5. The chef submitted his case after the deadline. T / F
6. The ruling settled whether the dismissal had been fair. T / F
7. The chef later went back to work at the same restaurant. T / F
8. Hawaiian pizza is generally believed to have originated in Canada. T / F

EXERCISE 3: Synonym Match

1. tradition	a. paid work
2. declined	b. established custom
3. conduct	c. extra time
4. dismissed	d. mix
5. file	e. resolve
6. extension	f. refused
7. settle	g. formally submit
8. employment	h. sacked
9. clash	i. behaviour
10. combination	j. conflict

Reporting The Guardian

© 2026 ADVANX · Design and branding. Personal, non-commercial study only.
Republication, redistribution and commercial use require prior written permission from ADVANX.

Karl Bushby returns to Hull after 28 years (5th November 2026) **easy**

Karl Bushby, a former British soldier, is finally back in Hull. He left the southern tip of Chile in November 1998 at the age of 29. His (1) _____ was to get home under his own power. He set a (2) _____ for himself. No vehicle could move him forward along his route. Over the years, he walked through cities, tropical (3) _____ and deserts. Between Alaska and Russia, he crossed the Bering Strait with another (4) _____. They had to move across dangerous (5) _____. Bushby also swam across the Caspian Sea. Both crossings were difficult (6) _____ of a much longer (7) _____ across several (8) _____.

stages
adventurer
journey
rule
continents
aim
jungles
ice

Bushby had expected the trip to take about 12 years. Problems with money and visas caused long (9) _____. When he could not get a Russian visa, for example, he had to wait before he could (10) _____. During the final part of the walk, people came out to (11) _____ him on as he entered Hull on 2 November 2026. His mother was there to (12) _____ him with a hug. The (13) _____ watched as they met outside the house where he had (14) _____ up. His return marked the end of an (15) _____ that had lasted more than twice as long as he had (16) _____.

planned
grown
continue
delays
expedition
greet
crowd
cheer

EXERCISE 2: True or False

1. Bushby started his walk in Chile. T / F
2. He intended to use vehicles for the difficult parts. T / F
3. He crossed the Bering Strait on his own. T / F
4. Bushby crossed the Caspian Sea by swimming. T / F
5. He expected the journey to take about 12 years. T / F
6. Money and visa problems delayed his trip. T / F
7. His mother met him at an airport. T / F
8. Bushby was 29 when he arrived back in Hull. T / F

EXERCISE 3: Synonym Match

1. aim	a. encourage him
2. route	b. parts
3. adventurer	c. last
4. stages	d. went on for
5. dangerous	e. welcome
6. delays	f. goal
7. final	g. path
8. cheer him on	h. explorer
9. greet	i. hold-ups
10. lasted	j. risky

Reporting Associated Press

© 2026 ADVANX · Design and branding. Personal, non-commercial study only.
Republication, redistribution and commercial use require prior written permission from ADVANX.

Hapag-Lloyd raises its earnings forecast (12th November 2026)	**B1**
German shipping company Hapag-Lloyd reported a stronger third quarter on 12 November. Its group (1) _____ reached about $1 billion for the three months to September. A big reason was the rise in freight (2) _____, the prices customers pay to send goods by ship. Bad weather contributed to delays at some Asian ports. Ships had to (3) _____ for a place at the port. Fewer ships were (4) _____ to load new goods on time. At the same time, there was strong (5) _____ for shipping. This pushed up the price of moving a (6) _____. The company made good use of its ships' (7) _____, and its port business also helped (8) _____ the result.	capacity available rates demand container wait improve profit
The company also raised its full-year (9) _____ for earnings. It said the last quarter of the year was going better than (10) _____. Shipping prices can change quickly. Bad weather or tensions in the Middle East can (11) _____ normal operations. The company says it will keep a close eye on (12) _____. For a business that imports goods, there is a practical (13) _____. A low price is only part of the decision when choosing a shipping (14) _____. Importers can ask if there is space on the next ship, how long (15) _____ will take and what happens if the ship is (16) _____.	lesson delivery forecast expected late costs service disrupt

EXERCISE 2: True or False

1. Group profit for the third quarter was about $1 billion. **T / F**
2. Freight rates tell customers the price of shipping goods. **T / F**
3. Bad weather helped ships get through Asian ports faster. **T / F**
4. Strong demand helped drive freight rates up. **T / F**
5. The company lowered its full-year earnings forecast. **T / F**
6. Hapag-Lloyd plans to keep watching its costs. **T / F**
7. The text suggests that price is the only factor to consider. **T / F**
8. The text says importers should avoid asking about delivery times. **T / F**

EXERCISE 3: Synonym Match

1. profit	a. shipping prices
2. freight rates	b. how much customers want to buy
3. available	c. bringing goods to a customer
4. demand	d. make better
5. improve	e. ready to use
6. forecast	f. interrupt
7. disrupt	g. expenses
8. costs	h. money left after costs
9. delivery	i. behind schedule
10. late	j. prediction

Sources The Wall Street Journal | Hapag-Lloyd results

© 2026 ADVANX · Design and branding. Personal, non-commercial study only.
Republication, redistribution and commercial use require prior written permission from ADVANX.

Siemens raises its growth outlook (12th November 2026)	**C1**
On 12 November, Siemens reported record quarterly orders of around €34.8 billion, up 58 per cent year on year. Rail contracts and demand for data centre infrastructure contributed to the (1) _____. Data centres need equipment to distribute electricity and manage heat. Both are areas in which Siemens can (2) _____ on rising demand for AI computing. The group ended the quarter with an order (3) _____ of €143 billion. Companies record (4) _____ when or as they meet their obligations under the contract. The order book gives Siemens some (5) _____ into future activity. Earnings still depend on delivery, costs and the (6) _____ of individual projects. Stronger demand led Siemens to (7) _____ its growth assumptions and raise its medium-term (8) _____.	revise surge revenue capitalise timing visibility outlook backlog
Siemens now expects comparable annual revenue growth of 7 to 11 per cent over the medium term. Its previous range was 6 to 9 per cent. A range leaves room for (9) _____ about the pace of investment. For operations teams, the challenge is to (10) _____ a strong order book into completed work. They can check whether suppliers can meet agreed (11) _____, whether staffing matches the expected (12) _____ and which delays could (13) _____ margins. Managers might (14) _____ projects with confirmed delivery dates and review those that depend on scarce components. Orders measure customer (15) _____. On-time delivery and cost control show how effectively the company can (16) _____.	workload prioritise uncertainty execute convert erode lead times demand

EXERCISE 2: True or False

1. Siemens received fewer new orders than a year earlier. **T / F**
2. Rail and data centre demand contributed to the rise in orders. **T / F**
3. The entire order backlog becomes revenue immediately. **T / F**
4. The order book gives some indication of future activity. **T / F**
5. Siemens raised its medium-term revenue growth range. **T / F**
6. The text suggests that project delays can reduce margins. **T / F**
7. The suggested planning approach ignores agreed delivery dates. **T / F**
8. A strong order book by itself proves that work is on schedule. **T / F**

EXERCISE 3: Synonym Match

1. surge	a. turn into
2. capitalise on	b. ability to anticipate
3. backlog	c. carry out the work
4. visibility	d. sharp rise
5. revise	e. forecast
6. outlook	f. give precedence to
7. convert	g. gradually weaken
8. erode	h. update
9. prioritise	i. work awaiting completion
10. execute	j. take advantage of

Sources Reuters | Siemens results

© 2026 ADVANX · Design and branding. Personal, non-commercial study only.
Republication, redistribution and commercial use require prior written permission from ADVANX.

Past Simple and Present Perfect (12th November 2026)	B1/B2
Past Simple Use it for finished actions when you say or know when they happened. Use the past form in affirmative sentences. For questions and negatives, use did or didn't + base form. *The team sent the quote yesterday. Did you receive it?*	yesterday last Tuesday in 2025 two days ago
Present Perfect Use have or has + past participle when a past action matters now or a period continues up to now. Use for with a length of time and since with a starting point. *The team has already sent the quote. We have worked with this client since 2022.*	so far already yet since 2022 for two years

EXERCISE 1: Choose the Correct Tense

Complete each sentence with the Past Simple or Present Perfect. Use British English.

1. We _____ (send) the quote at 9 a.m. yesterday.
2. The client _____ (not reply) yet. Please check again after lunch.
3. So far this week, we _____ (process) six returns.
4. Our technician _____ (fix) the cooling unit last Tuesday.
5. _____ you _____ (speak) to the supplier at yesterday's meeting?
6. We _____ (know) this supplier since 2022 and still work with them.
7. We _____ (not ship) the goods last Friday. The truck broke down.
8. I _____ (just update) the forecast. You can use the new figures now.

EXERCISE 2: Correct the Verb Form

Rewrite each sentence. Keep the time expression.

1. We have met the client last Wednesday.

   _____

2. The courier didn't delivered the parcel yesterday.

   _____

3. Since January, we have saw a rise in orders.

   _____

4. Has the customer paid the invoice yesterday?

   _____

EXERCISE 3: Write a Short Status Update

Use the notes to write two sentences for a colleague. Use yesterday in the first sentence and yet in the second.

1. 9 a.m. yesterday / send revised quote

   _____

2. customer's reply / still waiting

   _____

© 2026 ADVANX · Design and branding. Personal, non-commercial study only.
Republication, redistribution and commercial use require prior written permission from ADVANX.