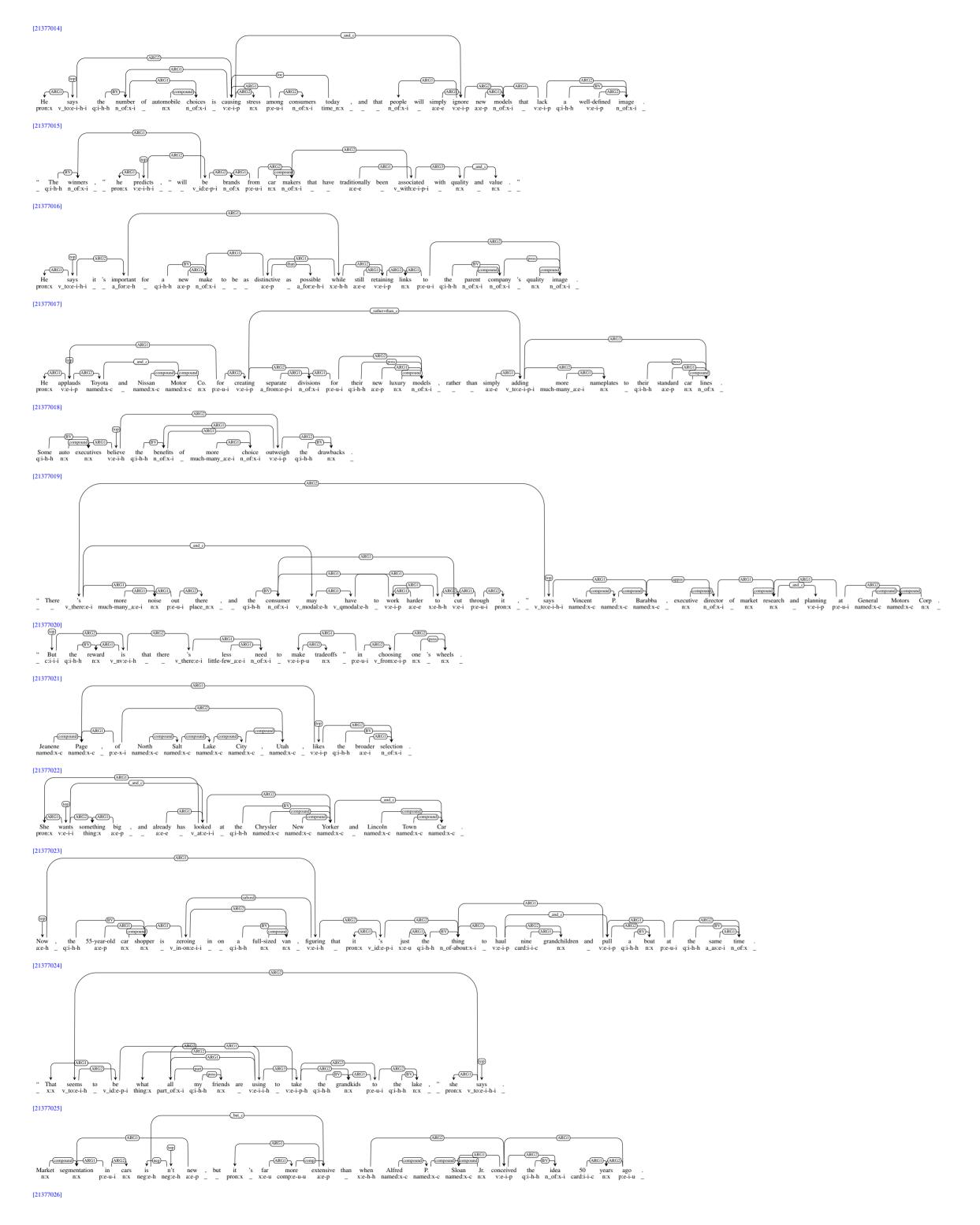
Document 1377 Part of a Series } part_of:i-i _ q:i-h-h n_of:x _ [21377002] SMYRNA , Ga. _ named:x-c _ named:x-c _ named:x-c [21377003] The auto-dealer strip in this booming suburb runs nearly five miles along Cobb Parkway, stretching from the Perimeter highway that circles Atlanta to the "Big Chicken," a pullet-roofed fast-food restaurant and local landmark. q:i-h-h n:x n_of:x-i p:e-u-i q_dem:i-h-h v:e-i n:x v:e-i-p _ card:i-i-c n:x p:e-u-i named:x-c named: Twenty years ago , in the infancy of suburban sprawl , just a handful of dealerships were here . card:i-i-c n:x p:e-i-u _ p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x p:e-x-i a:e-p n:x _ x:e-u q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ n:x v_id:e-p-i place_n:x _ Now there are 23 . time_n:x _ v_there:e-i card:i-i-c _ Alongside such long-familiar names as Chevrolet , Ford and Dodge are nameplates that did n't exist until three years ago : Acura , Sterling , Hyundai p:e-u-i q:i-h-h a_with:e-p-i n_of:x-i p:e-u-i named:x-c _ na Under construction is the strip 's 24th showroom , the future home of Lexus , a luxury marque launched by Toyota Motor Corp. just two months ago p:e-u-i n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ ord:i-i-c _ n:x _ q:i-h-h a:e-p n_of-n:x _ p:e-x-i _ named:x-c _ q:i-h-h n:x _ n:x _ card:i-i-c _ n:x _ card:i-i-c _ n:x _ p:e-i-u The 1980s have spawned an explosion of consumer choice in America , in everything from phone companies to colas q:i-h-h year_range:x-c _ v:e-i-p q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ n_of:x-i _ n_of:x-i _ n_of:x-i _ n:x _ n_of:x-i _ n:x _ n: (aRGI) (lop) And especially , as the Cobb Parkway strip attests , in cars c:i-i-i x:e-u _ x:e-h-h q:i-h-h named:x-c named:x-c n_of:x-i v:e-i-p _ p:e-u-i n:x For car marketers , it has become a much tougher battle to keep loyal customers from defecting to one of the new makes on the block . pre-u-i n:x n:x _ pron:x _ v_id:e-i-i q:i-h-h x:e-u a_for:e-i n:x x:e-h-h v_from:e-i-i-h a_to:e-p-i n_of:x-i _ v:e-i p:e-u-i card:i-i-c _ q:i-h-h a:e-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ BV For American car buyers , the proliferation of choice is both liberating and con p:e-u-i a:e-p n:x n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ n_of:x-i _ a_for:e-p-i _ a ARG3 BV compound compound Malcolm MacDougall , vice chairman of the Jordan , McGrath , named:x-c named



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y GM chairman declared that his company would make " a car for every purse and purpose . " named:x-c n_of:x-i v_to:e-i-h-i _ q:i-h-h n_of:x-i v_modal:e-h v:e-i-p-u _ q:i-h-h n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x _ n:x _ _ n:x _ _ ...
  Now there are many cars for every purse and purpose time_n:x _ v_there:e-i much-many_a:e-p n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x _ n:x
      Just four years ago , GM planners divided the combined car and truck market into seven segments .

_ card:i-i-c n:x p:e-i-u _ named:x-c n:x v_cause:e-i-p q:i-h-h v_cause:e-i-p n:x _ n:x n:x p:e-u-i card:i-i-c n:x _
      Today , they identify 19 distinct segments for cars , and another 11 for trucks and vans time_n:x _ pron:x v:e-i-p card:i-i-c a:e-p n:x p:e-u-i n:x _ _ q:i-h-h card:i-i-c p:e-u-i n:x _ n:x
    [21377030]
             (BV) (ARGI)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          (ARGI)
 For every brand like Renault or Fiat that has been squeezed out , others such as Isuzu , Daihatsu and Mitsubishi have come in .

p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_of:x p:e-u-i named:x-c _ v:e-i p:e-i _
      Detroit tries to counter the foreign invasion with new brands of its own named:x-c v:e-i-h v:e-i-p q:i-h-h a:e-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i a:e-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i a:e-p n_of:x p:e-x-i q:i-h-h n:x v:e-i-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i a:e-p n_of:x-i p:e-x-i q:i-h-h n:x v:e-u-i p:e-u-i a:e-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i a:e-u-i p:e-u-i p:e-u-i p:e-u-i a:e-u-i p:e-u-i p:e-u-
    [21377033]
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              's long-awaited Saturn cars will make their debut e.c. v:e-i-p named:x-c n:x v:e-i-p-u q:i-h-h n:x
        GM launched the Geo marque this year to sell cars made in partnership with foreign auto makers , and next year GM named:x-c v_cause:e-i-p q:i-h-h named:x-c n:x q_dem:i-h-h n:x x:e-h-h v:e-i-p n:x v:e-i-p-u p:e-u-i n:x p:e-u-i a:e-p n:x n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h n:x named:x-c v_cause:x-c v
   But slow sales forced Ford to kill the brand just last week c:i-i-i a:e-p n_of:x-i v:e-i-i-h named:x-c _ v:e-i-p q:i-h-h n_of:x _ q:i-h-h n:x
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       (ARGI)
      When consumers have so many choices , brand loyalty is much harder to maintain . x:e-h-h n_of:x-i v:e-i-i comp:e-u-u much-many_a:e-p n_of:x-i __n_of:x n_to:x __ a:e-e a_for:e-h-i __ v:e-i-p __
                                                                                                         comp_so ARGI
               BV
   Which cars do Americans favor most these days ? q:i-h-h n:x _ n:x v:e-i-p a:e-e q_dem:i-h-h n_of:x-i _
It 's hard to generalize , but age seems to be the best predictor .

_ a_for:e-h-i _ v:e-i _ _ n:x v_to:e-i-h _ v_id:e-p-i q:i-h-h a_at-for-of:e-i n:x _
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