# GMC **slash its workforce**

Ten-second **trivia/quiz**, which of these automobile brands is not manufactured by General Motors? …It **used to be** part of GM but it was shut down in 2010. The last Chevy Cruze has **rolled off** the line at a GM plant in Ohio. It’s a community located between Cleveland and Pittsburgh and its economy **benefited from** having a General Motors plant there, but the company **slashed/axed all its workforce** and closed the factory this week.

It’s CEO says American’s aren’t buying as many **sedans /sɪˈdæn/ 轿车** like the Cruze so GM, like other U.S. car companies is shifting toward making more trucks and SUV’s, which are more **profitable** 更大收益.

The **landscape/situation/circumstances 处境** for American auto workers has been changing for decades. There’s been increased competition from Japanese car markers. Some U.S. companies have outsourced jobs to Mexico.

Whether GM will use its Lordstown facility to make another vehicle or give it up all together is a highly important question for both the workers and the local economy itself. **It would be a shame** for them to shut it down after 52 years. After years of **downsizing** 规模缩小, this GM plant in Ohio is closing. About 1,400 people are losing their jobs. **God bless you and empower you. 愿上帝保佑，赐予你力量。**

Of those, about 400 have accepted transfers to other plants. And here these workers that are **honking their horns 拉响警报**know **what’s at stake**. 工人们正在**拉响警报**，知道自己正**处于紧要关头**. **There’s no doubt that/undoubtedly** GM has been really important/critical to the overall economy for the past 40 years. Their potential loss **is devastating/catastrophic to** the local economy. 对<xxx>有着灾难性的影响。

A bigger impact is associated with the fact that it’s estimated as many as three to four jobs are directly dependent on each job at an auto manufacturer. That’s the equivalent of a 4 to 5 percent increase in **unem**ployment in a **relatively** short period of time. …**I am in the trim department. 我所在的部门要被裁减了**。

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| trivia:   * domestic trivia 家庭琐事unimportant matters, details or information 琐事；细枝末节 e.g. We spent the whole evening discussing **domestic trivia**. 我们整个晚上谈论家庭琐事 * a 10-min **trivia/quiz** |
| [roll out <a product>] |
| **[愿上帝保佑，赐予你力量 God bless you and empower you ]** |
| ## /hɒŋk/  美 /hɑːŋk/  /hɔːŋk/  **[ honk the horn; the horn honks]**  ### n.  1. `honk` is the noise made by a **goose** 鹅叫声  2. `honk` is the noise made by a car horn 鸣笛鸣响; 汽车喇叭声  e.g. She pulled to the right with a honk.  她按了声喇叭，把车开到了右边  ### v.   1. V-T/V-I If you **honk the horn** of a vehicle or if **the horn honks**, you make the horn produce a short loud sound. 鸣 (车辆喇叭); (车辆喇叭) 鸣响. **[honk at sb: 对sb按喇叭]** e.g. Drivers **honked their horns** in solidarity with the peace marchers.  e.g. Why did he **honk at** me? 他为什么对我按喇叭？  e.g. And here these workers that are **honking their horns 拉响警报**know **what’s at stake**. 工人们正在**拉响警报**，知道自己正**处于紧要关头** 2. [ V ] when **a goose honks** , it makes a loud noise （鹅）叫   ### adj**) honking taxis 喇叭声大作的出租车**  ## siren */ˈsaɪərən/*  N-COUNT A siren is a warning device which makes a long, loud noise. Most **fire engines**救火车, ambulances, and police cars have sirens. (救火车,救护车,警车的) 警报器  **[an air-raid siren  空袭警报器 ]**  e.g. It sounds like an **air-raid siren**.  这听起来像是空袭警报  e.g. A **fire engine**救火车raced past with its **siren** warning. 一辆警车鸣着警报器飞驰而过 |
| ## 裁减   * `slash workforce` * `**cut back on** working hours` * ` **I am in the trim department. 我所在的部门要被裁减了`** * `axe `: [ sing. ] ( informal ) if sb gets the axe , they lose their job; if an institution or a project gets the axe , it is closed or stopped, usually because of a lack of money （遭）解雇；倒闭；被停业 If someone's job or something such as a public service or a television programme is axed, it is ended suddenly and without discussion. 被砍掉 e.g. Community projects are **being axed** by hard-pressed social services departments.  e.g. Up to 300 workers are **facing the axe 面临被解雇** at a struggling Merseyside firm.  e.g. That reality show is to be axed next month bz of pretty low rating. (**电视节目) 被砍掉**   ## slash **[slash the workforce; slash the budge; slash the food price]**  slash something such as costs or jobs means to reduce them **by a large amount**. 大幅度削减  e.g. Car makers could be forced to slash prices.  大幅度降价  ## trim /trɪm/  (trimming,trimmed,trimmer,trims,trimmest)  ### Adj   1. Something that is trim is neat, and attractive. 整洁美观的 e.g. The neighbors' gardens and lawn 草坪 **were trim and neat. 整洁又美观**。 2. ADJ If you describe someone's figure as **trim/slender**, you mean that it is attractive because there is no extra fat on their body. 苗条的 e.g. The driver was **a trim and slender** young woman of perhaps thirty. 苗条 年轻女子。   ### V-T   1. If you trim something, for example, someone's hair, you cut off small amounts of it in order to make it look neater. 修剪 e.g. My friend **trims my hair** every eight weeks.  修剪一次头发。 2. V-T If a government or other organization **trims something such as a plan, policy, budget, or amount of money**, they reduce/slash/axe it **slightly in extent or size. (小幅度的)削减**   [**削减成本: trim the cost; 削减预算: trim the budget]** e.g. American companies looked at ways they could **trim/slash/axe costs 削减成本**.   1. V.S. slash: slash something such as costs or jobs means to reduce them **by a large amount. 大幅度削减** 2. V-T If something such as a piece of clothing **is trimmed with** a type of material or design as decoration, it is decorated with it, usually along its edges. 镶边于 e.g ...jackets, which are then trimmed with lace [leɪs]   ### N-SING Trim is also a noun. 修剪   1. e.g. His hair needed a trim.  他的头发需要修剪了 e.g. His mustache/beards need a trim **e.g. I am in the trim department. 我所在的部门要被裁减了** 2. N-VAR The trim on something such as a piece of clothing is a decoration, for example, along its edges, that is in a different colour or material. 镶边 e.g. ...a white satin scarf with black trim.…一条镶着黑边的白色绸缎围巾。 |
| If you **[ go for a spin ]** or **[ take a car for a spin],** you make a short trip in a car just to enjoy yourself. 兜风 e.g. Tom celebrated his 99th birthday by **going for a spin** in his sporty Lamburkini 汤姆]开着他的Lamburkini出**去兜风**以庆祝其99岁生日 |

# Table: Car types/type of car V.S. car model, e.g. X400, X300

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| fire engine消防车；救火车 | special vehicle that carries equipment for fighting large fires 消防车；救火车  A **fire engine救火车**raced past with its siren warning. 一辆警车鸣着警报器飞驰而过 |
| 拖车:  A car parked on a city street  Description automatically generated | 拖车: a trailer/a tow, a tow truck [təu]= tow car; tow boat = tug boat  **[ Call the tow/trailer, pls 叫拖车吧 ]** |
| [词条图片](javascript:;) | coupe  [ˈku:peɪ] 小轿车；双座四轮轿式马车 🡺 **mini-couper**  A coupé (US coupe) is a closed **two-door** car body style with a permanently attached fixed roof, that is shorter than a saloon (US sedan) of the same model, and it often has seating for two persons or with a tight-spaced rear seat.  Compared with coupe and convertible, the **sedan** is the **roomiest** type of car, as it can seat five passengers. **Comparatively**, the **coupe** and **convertible** are only big enough for **four** passengers and therefore less spacious than the sedan. |
| [词条图片](javascript:;) | n. 轿车；轿子sedan  [sɪ'dæn]: a car that has **four doors**, seats for at least four people, and a boot/trunk 大轿车，厢式轿车  Compared with **coupe** and **convertible**, the **sedan** is the **roomiest** type of car, as it can seat five passengers. **Comparatively**, the **coupe** and **convertible** are only big enough for **four** passengers and therefore less spacious than the sedan. |
| [词条图片](javascript:;)  A close up of a car  Description automatically generated | convert 🡺convertible   [kən'vɜːtɪb(ə)l]     1. an object that is convertible can be folded or arranged in a different way so that it can be used as something else 可转换的，可改变的  **[a convertible sofa (可折叠的)两用沙发]** 2. [Financial] able to be exchanged for the money of another country 〔货币〕可兑换的 **[ a convertible currency可兑换货币 ]** 3. [Financial] a financial document such as an insurance arrangement or a bond that is convertible can be exchanged for money, stocks etc 〔**证券等〕可兑换的** 4. N) a car with a soft roof that you can fold back or remove **折篷车，敞篷车.** Normally **sports car跑车**is a classical type of the **convertible**.   Compared with coupe and convertible, the **sedan** is the **roomiest** type of car, as it can seat five passengers. **Comparatively**, the **coupe** and **convertible** are only big enough for **four** passengers and therefore less spacious than the sedan. |
| [词条图片](javascript:;) | wagon  ['wægən]  n. 货车，四轮马车  vt. 用运货马车运输货物 |
| . (幼儿骑的)三轮车 | **tri**cycle [‘traɪsɪk(ə) A tricycle is a bike with three wheels, two at the back and one at the front. Tricycles are ridden by young children. (幼儿骑的)三轮车  [词条图片](javascript:;) |
| [词条图片](javascript:;) | **旅行车 station wagon:** a large car with extra space at the back, with a door there for loading and unloading 客货两用车 |
|  | **sports wagon:** 【网络】运动旅行版, e.g. Families prefer **roomier/more spacious** vehicles like sports wagons |
| 〔内有舒适座椅的〕长途公共汽车 | [C]  **coach〔内有舒适座椅的〕长途公共汽车:** a bus with comfortable seats used for long journeys  •a coach trip to Scotland 去苏格兰的**长途公共汽车**之行  We went to Paris by **coach**. 我们坐**长途汽车**去巴黎。 |
| A car driving on a road  Description automatically generated | a limousine or limo   1. 大型豪华轿车(as the wedding car) 2. 美国小型的机场巴士(shuttle bus in U.S. airports) |
| A car parked in a parking lot  Description automatically generated | 跑车 sports car : a low fast car, often with a roof that can be folded back or removed. This car is built more for speed than anything else. Normally the **sports car跑车**is a classical type of the convertible敞篷车.  e.g. Lamborghini [, læbo:'gini:] 兰博基尼 is a **big-time(一流的／顶尖**) **sports car** in car market. |
| [词条图片](javascript:;) | 小型汽车; [紧凑型轿车](javascript:;) **compact car**, This vehicle is smaller than the average car. Compact cars are easy to drive and park. |
| A white truck parked on the side of a road  Description automatically generated | 野营车 [ camper van ]  A camper van is a motor vehicle which is equipped with beds and cooking equipment so that you can live, cook, and sleep in it. This vehicle is equipped with beds, a bathroom and a kitchenette so that people can use it as a home. |
| A car parked in front of a truck  Description automatically generated | pickup /ˈpɪkʌp/  or pickup truck[小卡车](javascript:;) , 轻型货车  A pickup or a pickup truck is a small truck with low sides that can be easily loaded and unloaded. This vehicle has a large **uncovered cargo area** in the back. |
| [词条图片](javascript:;) | 〔可乘六至八人的〕小客车，小面包车 minivan: This vehicle is designed to be taller and wider than a sedan or hatchback to provide more interior volume; a large car with seats for six to eight people |
|  | Jeep: This vehicle is often used off road and can usually be converted from a covered top to an open top. |
|  | 4 X 4**越野车: 4-by-4;** Each of this vehicle's four wheels is powered by the engine.  e.g. Just after noon, I got back into my 4-by 4 and headed off alone, more confident of the way through the desert this time.  上了我的4X4越野车， |
| If you **[ go for a spin ]** or **[ take a car for a spin],** you make a short trip in a car just to enjoy yourself. 兜风 e.g. Tom celebrated his 99th birthday by **going for a spin** in his sporty Lamburkini 汤姆]开着他的Lamburkini出**去兜风**以庆祝其99岁生日 | |

# Amazon **Scrapping** Headquarters Plan for New York City

The technology company Amazon has cancelled plans to build part of a second headquarters in New York City. 🡺The plan is **aborted**. It’s main campus is in Seattle, Washington. About a year and a half ago, Amazon announced it **would (`subjunctive mood`虚拟)** build a second headquarters and more than 230 cities joined a **competition** to be the site of it.

.. Combined they offered Amazon $2.8 billion worth of **incentives** 经济刺激and benefits like **tax breaks 税收减免；税额优惠** And they became the two places Amazon chose for it’s second headquarters.

Amazon was expected to eventually bring 25,000 high paying jobs to each city and tens of billions of dollars in new tax revenue but protests started in New York. Residents didn’t like their current tax dollars being spent to attract Amazon and some are concerned that home prices would rise making them too expensive for people who already live there. Amazon and several New York politicians **blamed** each other for the reasons why the project was cancelled. The company says it won’t reopen its search for another campus right now but the governor of New Jersey says his state’s open for business.

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| * `tax avoidance` = tax dodge * `tax breaks**税收减免；税额优惠`** |
| ## scrap  n.  1. [ C ] a small piece of sth, especially paper, cloth, etc. 碎片，小块（纸、织物等）  e.g.She scribbled his phone number on **a scrap of paper**. 她把他的电话号码匆匆写在一张小纸片上。   **( figurative ) scraps of information 零星消息**  e.g. ( figurative ) She was just a scrap of a thing (= small and thin) . 她是个不起眼的小东西  2. [ sing. ] ( usually with a negative 通常与否定式连用 ) a small amount of sth 丝毫；一丁点  SYN bit  e.g. It won't make **a scrap of difference**  . 这不会有丝毫的差别。  e.g.There's not **a scrap of evidence** to support his claim. 没有丝毫证据支持他的说法  3. ( scraps ) [ pl. ] food left after a meal 残羹剩饭 = leftover  e.g. Give the scraps to the dog. 把剩菜喂狗吧。  4. [ U ] things that are not wanted or cannot be used for their original purpose, but which have some value for the material they are made of 废料；废品  **[ scrap metal  废金属; a  scrap dealer  (= a person who buys and sells scrap ) 废品商人]**  e.g.We sold the car for scrap  (= so that any good parts can be used again) . 我们把车当废品卖了。  5. ( informal ) a short fight or disagreement 打架；争吵 SYN scuffle , squabble  e.g. He was always **getting into scraps** at school. 他在学校老跟人打架  Verb) scrap my computer 报废 |
| ## 责备   * blame sb = criticize sb = slam sb * point fingers at sb * denounce sb. = decry sb  e.g. If you denounce a person or an action, you criticize them severely and publicly because you feel strongly that they are wrong or evil. 公开谴责 * condemn sb. = condemnation /ˌkɒndemˈneɪʃn/ |
| [lobby politicians; lobby the government] = persuade sb into doing; convince sb. to do |