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## Level 6

# Cubans can now buy a car more easily

22nd December, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

Cuba's government is making it easier for Cubans to buy foreign made, new and used cars. The Havana Times reports that: "The Council of Ministers of Cuba decided at its current meeting to open up the retail sale of new and used motorcycles, cars, vans and minibuses." It added that the government would also "prioritize bicycle sales on the retail market" and offer them at very affordable prices. New laws mean the government is further relaxing regulations on car ownership. Until 2011, people were not permitted to sell cars that were made after the 1959 Cuban revolution. This made Havana look like it was in a time warp as every car on the road was a vintage model from yesteryear.

The Cuban government will set and control the price of all imported and new vehicles. It will also be the only entity that can import foreign cars into the country. Cubans will need to buy an imported car from the government. According to the Communist Party newspaper, all profits from sales will go towards improving Cuba's roads and transportation system. Car dealers are not anticipating a huge influx of sales. Most people in Cuba cannot afford to buy even a used car, let alone a new one. Havana resident Jorge Canso commented on this, saying: "Yeah, I can buy one, but with what? Unfortunately our economy doesn't allow us to save money to be able to buy one."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-25450026>  
<http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/12/19/3828433/cuba-lifts-all-restrictions-on.html><br>  
<http://www.havanatimes.org/?p=100683>

# WARM-UPS

**1. CUBA:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Cuba. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*foreign cars / meeting / prioritize / government / regulations / revolution / yesteryear / control prices / new vehicles / profits / transportation / car dealers / save money*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. YESTERYEAR:** What things from the past would you like life to be like today? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What's wrong with today's	Are the past's things better? Why?
Manners		
Shopping		
Food		
TV		
Cities		
Pace of life		

**4. REVOLUTIONS:** Students A **strongly** believe revolutions are good; Students B **strongly** believe they are bad. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. PRICE CONTROLS:** Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put things governments should control the price of at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- healthcare
- electricity
- bread
- education fees
- phone calls
- cars
- houses
- cigarettes

**6. CAR:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "car". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. Cuba is still making it difficult for people to buy foreign cars.        | T / F |
| b. The government is giving priority to the sale of bicycles.               | T / F |
| c. In 2010, people couldn't sell cars that were newer than 50 years old.    | T / F |
| d. The Cuban revolution happened over 60 years ago.                         | T / F |
| e. There will be no price controls on cars sold in Cuba from now.           | T / F |
| f. Only Cuba's government will be able to import foreign cars.              | T / F |
| g. All profits from car sales help improve Cuba's transport infrastructure. | T / F |
| h. A man called Jorge is very happy that he can now buy a car.              | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 1. current    | a. rush                |
| 2. affordable | b. the past            |
| 3. further    | c. fix                 |
| 4. permitted  | d. latest              |
| 5. yesteryear | e. organization        |
| 6. set        | f. bettering           |
| 7. entity     | g. to a greater extent |
| 8. improving  | h. inexpensive         |
| 9. influx     | i. let                 |
| 10. allow     | j. allowed             |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Cuba's government is making         | a. to be able to buy one  |
| 2. offer them at very affordable       | b. model from yesteryear  |
| 3. relaxing regulations                | c. improving Cuba's roads |
| 4. it was in a time                    | d. control the price      |
| 5. every car on the road was a vintage | e. of sales               |
| 6. set and                             | f. on car ownership       |
| 7. the only entity that can            | g. it easier for Cubans   |
| 8. go towards                          | h. import foreign cars    |
| 9. anticipating a huge influx          | i. warp                   |
| 10. save money                         | j. prices                 |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

Cuba's government is making it (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for Cubans to buy foreign made, new and used cars. The Havana Times reports that: "The Council of Ministers of Cuba decided at its (2) \_\_\_\_\_ meeting to open up the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ sale of new and used motorcycles, cars, vans and minibuses." It added that the government would also "(4) \_\_\_\_\_ bicycle sales on the retail market" and offer them at very affordable prices. New laws mean the government is further (5) \_\_\_\_\_ regulations on car ownership. Until 2011, people were not (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to sell cars that were made after the 1959 Cuban (7) \_\_\_\_\_. This made Havana look like it was in a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ warp as every car on the road was a vintage model from yesteryear.

*permitted*  
*prioritize*  
*revolution*  
*easier*  
*current*  
*time*  
*relaxing*  
*retail*

The Cuban government will (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and control the price of all imported and new (10) \_\_\_\_\_. It will also be the only entity that can import foreign cars into the country. Cubans will need to buy an imported car from the government. According to the Communist Party newspaper, all profits from sales will go (11) \_\_\_\_\_ improving Cuba's roads and transportation system. Car (12) \_\_\_\_\_ are not anticipating a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ influx of sales. Most people in Cuba cannot (14) \_\_\_\_\_ to buy even a used car, let alone a new one. Havana resident Jorge Canso (15) \_\_\_\_\_ on this, saying: "Yeah, I can buy one, but with what? Unfortunately our economy doesn't (16) \_\_\_\_\_ us to save money to be able to buy one."

*commented*  
*vehicles*  
*huge*  
*dealers*  
*set*  
*allow*  
*afford*  
*towards*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

- 1) The Council of Ministers of Cuba decided at its current meeting to open up \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the retails ale
  - b. the retails sale
  - c. the re-tale sale
  - d. the retail sale
- 2) prioritize bicycle sales on the retail market and offer them at \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. very affable prices
  - b. very affordability prices
  - c. very affordable prices
  - d. very afforded prices
- 3) people were not permitted to sell cars that were made after the 1959 \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Cuban revolutions
  - b. Cuban revolution
  - c. Cuban revolutionize
  - d. Cuban revolutionary
- 4) This made Havana look like it was in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a time wrap
  - b. a time warp
  - c. a time warm
  - d. a time ward
- 5) every car on the road was a vintage model \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. from yesteryear
  - b. from yes to year
  - c. from jester year
  - d. from yesterday year
- 6) The Cuban government will set and control the price of all imported \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and new vehicle
  - b. and new vehicles
  - c. and new beer calls
  - d. and new be a culls
- 7) go towards improving Cuba's roads and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. transport a shun system
  - b. transport attention system
  - c. transportation systems
  - d. transportation system
- 8) Car dealers are not anticipating a huge \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in flux of sales
  - b. influx of sales
  - c. in flax of sales
  - d. in blocks of sales
- 9) Havana resident Jorge Canso \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. commented in this
  - b. commented on this
  - c. commented an this
  - d. commented and this
- 10) our economy doesn't allow us to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. saves money
  - b. save money
  - c. savings money
  - d. saved money

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

Cuba's government is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for Cubans to buy foreign made, new and used cars. The Havana Times reports that: "The Council of Ministers of Cuba decided at its current meeting to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ sale of new and used motorcycles, cars, vans and minibuses." It added that the government would also "prioritize bicycle sales on the retail market" and offer them at (3) \_\_\_\_\_. New laws mean the government is further (4) \_\_\_\_\_ on car ownership. Until 2011, people were (5) \_\_\_\_\_ sell cars that were made after the 1959 Cuban revolution. This made Havana look like it was in (6) \_\_\_\_\_ every car on the road was a vintage model from yesteryear.

The Cuban government (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the price of all imported and new vehicles. It will also (8) \_\_\_\_\_ that can import foreign cars into the country. Cubans will need to buy an imported car from the government. According to the Communist Party newspaper, all profits from sales (9) \_\_\_\_\_ improving Cuba's roads and transportation system. Car dealers are not anticipating (10) \_\_\_\_\_ sales. Most people in Cuba cannot afford to buy even a used car, (11) \_\_\_\_\_ one. Havana resident Jorge Canso commented on this, saying: "Yeah, I can buy one, but with what? Unfortunately our economy doesn't allow us to save (12) \_\_\_\_\_ buy one."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

1. Who is making it easier for Cubans to buy cars?

---

2. When did the Council of Ministers of Cuba make a decision?

---

3. What will the government prioritize?

---

4. From when were Cubans able to buy cars newer than 50 years old?

---

5. When does the article say the cars on Havana's roads were from?

---

6. What will the Cuban government set and control?

---

7. Who can import foreign cars into Cuba?

---

8. What do profits from car sales go towards?

---

9. What aren't car dealers expecting?

---

10. What does a Havana resident complain about?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

1. Who is making it easier for Cubans to buy cars?
  - a) the USA
  - b) Toyota
  - c) the Cuban government
  - d) Cuba's car dealers
2. When did the Council of Ministers of Cuba make a decision?
  - a) at a recent meeting
  - b) 2012
  - c) last September
  - d) 5 days ago
3. What will the government prioritize?
  - a) health
  - b) bicycle sales
  - c) the environment
  - d) education
4. From when were Cubans able to buy cars newer than 50 years old?
  - a) 2012
  - b) 2009
  - c) 2007
  - d) 2011
5. When does the article say the cars on Havana's roads were from?
  - a) once in a blue moon
  - b) once upon a time
  - c) yesteryear
  - d) the 19th century
6. What will the Cuban government set and control?
  - a) gasoline prices
  - b) prices of new cars
  - c) salaries of taxi drivers
  - d) the engine size of cars
7. Who can import foreign cars into Cuba?
  - a) anyone
  - b) car dealers
  - c) Toyota
  - d) only the Cuban government
8. What do profits from car sales go towards?
  - a) hospitals and schools
  - b) better roads
  - c) Cuba's car industry
  - d) road safety campaigns
9. What aren't car dealers expecting?
  - a) help
  - b) lots of sales
  - c) the new models of Mercedes Benz
  - d) profit
10. What does a Havana resident complain about?
  - a) not being able to save
  - b) traffic jams
  - c) the quality of foreign cars
  - d) holes in the road

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

## **Role A – Cars**

You think cars from yesteryear are better than they are today. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ideas. Also, tell the others which of these are better today than in the past (and why): people's manners, city life or television.

## **Role B – People's manners**

You think people's manners from yesteryear are better than they are today. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ideas. Also, tell the others which of these are better today than in the past (and why): cars, cities or television.

## **Role C – Cities**

You think city life from yesteryear is better than it is today. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ideas. Also, tell the others which of these are better today than in the past (and why): people's manners, city life or television.

## **Role D – Television**

You think television from yesteryear is better than it is today. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ideas. Also, tell the others which of these are better today than in the past (and why): people's manners, city life or cars.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'new' and 'used'.

new	used

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• easier</li><li>• current</li><li>• added</li><li>• relaxing</li><li>• 2011</li><li>• model</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• set</li><li>• need</li><li>• towards</li><li>• huge</li><li>• resident</li><li>• allow</li></ul>
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# CUBA SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Cuba in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## **CUBA & CARS DISCUSSION**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'Cuba'?
- c) What do you think about what you read?
- d) Why did Cuba make it difficult for people to buy cars?
- e) How important is a car to you?
- f) How will the new decision change people's lives in Cuba?
- g) Would you like to see Havana when it was full of pre-1959 cars?
- h) What's your favourite car (and why)?
- i) What are the bad things about cars?
- j) Do you prefer the look of today's cars or of vintage cars?

*Cubans can now buy a car more easily – 22nd December, 2013*  
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## **CUBA & CARS DISCUSSION**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Should the government set the price of cars?
- c) Do you think cars are good value for money?
- d) Are imported cars best?
- e) Which country makes the best cars?
- f) What are the roads like in your country?
- g) What will cars be like in the future?
- h) What would your city be like if it were a no-car city?
- i) Do you think Cuba will have more problems now because of more cars?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Cuba's president?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

Cuba's government is making it (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for Cubans to buy foreign made, new and used cars. The Havana Times reports that: "The Council of Ministers of Cuba decided at its (2) \_\_\_\_\_ meeting to open up the retail sale of new and used motorcycles, cars, vans and minibuses." It added that the government would also "prioritize bicycle sales on the retail market" and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ them at very affordable prices. New laws mean the government is further (4) \_\_\_\_\_ regulations on car ownership. Until 2011, people were not (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to sell cars that were made after the 1959 Cuban revolution. This made Havana look like it was in a time warp as every car on the road was a vintage model from (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The Cuban government will (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and control the price of all imported and new vehicles. It will also be the only (8) \_\_\_\_\_ that can import foreign cars into the country. Cubans will need to buy an imported car from the government. According (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the Communist Party newspaper, all profits from sales will go towards improving Cuba's roads and transportation system. Car (10) \_\_\_\_\_ are not anticipating a huge influx of sales. Most people in Cuba cannot afford to buy even a used car, let (11) \_\_\_\_\_ a new one. Havana resident Jorge Canso commented on this, saying: "Yeah, I can buy one, but with what? Unfortunately our economy doesn't allow us to save money to be able to buy (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |               |                |                |                |
|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) eased     | (b) easier     | (c) eases      | (d) easily     |
| 2.  | (a) currant   | (b) current    | (c) currency   | (d) currants   |
| 3.  | (a) afford    | (b) effort     | (c) affront    | (d) offer      |
| 4.  | (a) lounging  | (b) relaxing   | (c) chilling   | (d) resting    |
| 5.  | (a) permits   | (b) permitting | (c) permission | (d) permitted  |
| 6.  | (a) yesterday | (b) pre-year   | (c) yesteryear | (d) yearly     |
| 7.  | (a) set       | (b) get        | (c) let        | (d) met        |
| 8.  | (a) volume    | (b) city       | (c) entity     | (d) dealership |
| 9.  | (a) by        | (b) as         | (c) of         | (d) to         |
| 10. | (a) dealers   | (b) merchants  | (c) vendors    | (d) brokers    |
| 11. | (a) alone     | (b) lonesome   | (c) lonely     | (d) loner      |
| 12. | (a) car       | (b) it         | (c) this       | (d) one        |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. The nulciCo of Ministers
2. offer them at very afordleabf prices
3. relaxing uorantieslg on car ownership
4. people were not itmeerptd to sell cars
5. the 1959 Cuban nolirvuteo
6. a gteivna model from yesteryear

## Paragraph 2

7. all imported and new lsvichee
8. import rfeogni cars
9. go towards imgnvpori Cuba's roads
10. iaaigtncpt a huge influx of sales
11. cannot dofafr to buy even a used car
12. aetnryfntluoU our economy doesn't allow us to



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) like it was in a time warp as every car on the road was a vintage model from yesteryear.
- ( ) to sell cars that were made after the 1959 Cuban revolution. This made Havana look
- ( ) up the retail sale of new and used motorcycles, cars, vans and minibuses." It added that the government would
- ( ) sales will go towards improving Cuba's roads and transportation system. Car dealers are not
- ( ) anticipating a huge influx of sales. Most people in Cuba cannot afford to buy even a used
- ( ) Times reports that: "The Council of Ministers of Cuba decided at its current meeting to open
- ( ) car, let alone a new one. Havana resident Jorge Canso commented on this, saying: "Yeah, I can buy
- ( ) further relaxing regulations on car ownership. Until 2011, people were not permitted
- ( ) one, but with what? Unfortunately our economy doesn't allow us to save money to be able to buy one."
- ( ) entity that can import foreign cars into the country. Cubans will need to buy an imported car
- ( ) from the government. According to the Communist Party newspaper, all profits from
- ( ) The Cuban government will set and control the price of all imported and new vehicles. It will also be the only
- ( **1** ) Cuba's government is making it easier for Cubans to buy foreign made, new and used cars. The Havana
- ( ) also "prioritize bicycle sales on the retail market" and offer them at very affordable prices. New laws mean the government is

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

1. it Cuba's easier government for is Cubans making.

---

2. is relaxing government further regulations The.

---

3. made after the 1959 Cuban revolution Sell cars that were.

---

4. warp time a in was it like look Havana made This.

---

5. a was road the on car Every yesteryear from model vintage.

---

6. Control of and price imported vehicles the all new.

---

7. foreign entity cars that can The import only.

---

8. improving sales towards roads from go Cuba's Profits will.

---

9. of sales Car dealers are not anticipating a huge influx.

---

10. us money our allow save Unfortunately doesn't to economy.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

Cuba's government is *making / made* it easier for Cubans to buy foreign made, new and *used / useful* cars. The Havana Times reports that: "The Council of Ministers of Cuba *decision / decided* at its current meeting to open up the retail *sail / sale* of new and used motorcycles, cars, vans and minibuses." It added that the government would also "*prioritize / priority* bicycle sales on the retail *marketing / market*" and offer them at very *affording / affordable* prices. New laws mean the government is *farther / further* relaxing regulations on car ownership. Until 2011, people were not permitted to sell cars that were made after the 1959 Cuban *revolution / revolutionary*. This made Havana look like it was in a time warp as every car on the road was a *vintage / vantage* model from yesteryear.

The Cuban government will *set / let* and control the price of all imported and new vehicles. It will also be the only *entirety / entity* that can import foreign cars into the country. Cubans will need to buy an imported car from the government. According *of / to* the Communist Party newspaper, all profits from sales will *go / come* towards improving Cuba's roads and transportation system. Car *dealings / dealers* are not anticipating a huge *reflux / influx* of sales. Most people in Cuba cannot afford to buy even a used car, *bet / let* alone a new one. Havana *residence / resident* Jorge Canso commented on this, saying: "Yeah, I can buy one, but *with / without* what? Unfortunately our economy doesn't allow us to save money to *be able / capable* to buy one."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

C\_b\_'s g\_v\_rnm\_nt \_s m\_k\_ng \_t \_\_s\_\_r f\_r C\_b\_ns t\_b\_y f\_r\_\_gn m\_d\_, n\_w \_nd \_s\_d c\_rs. Th\_ H\_v\_n\_ T\_m\_s r\_p\_rts th\_t: "Th\_ C\_\_nc\_l\_f M\_n\_st\_rs \_f C\_b\_d\_c\_d\_d \_t \_ts c\_rr\_nt m\_\_t\_ng t\_ \_p\_n \_p th\_ r\_t\_\_l s\_l\_ \_f n\_w \_nd \_s\_d m\_t\_rcycl\_s, c\_rs, v\_ns \_nd m\_n\_b\_s\_s." \_t \_dd\_d th\_t th\_ g\_v\_rnm\_nt w\_\_ld \_ls\_ "pr\_\_r\_t\_z\_ b\_cycl\_ s\_l\_s \_n th\_ r\_t\_\_l m\_rk\_t" \_nd \_ff\_r th\_m \_t v\_ry \_ff\_rd\_bl\_ pr\_c\_s. N\_w l\_ws m\_\_n th\_ g\_v\_rnm\_nt \_s f\_rth\_r r\_l\_x\_ng r\_g\_l\_t\_\_ns \_n c\_r \_wn\_rsh\_p. \_nt\_l 2011, p\_\_pl\_ w\_r\_ n\_t p\_rm\_tt\_d t\_s ll c\_rs th\_t w\_r\_ m\_d\_ \_ft\_r th\_ 1959 C\_b\_n r\_v\_l\_t\_\_n. Th\_s m\_d\_ H\_v\_n\_ l\_\_k l\_k\_ \_t w\_s \_n \_t\_m\_ w\_rp \_s \_v\_ry c\_r \_n th\_ r\_\_d w\_s \_v\_nt\_g\_m\_d\_l fr\_m y\_st\_ry\_\_r.

Th\_ C\_b\_n g\_v\_rnm\_nt w\_ll s\_t \_nd c\_ntr\_l th\_ pr\_c\_ \_f \_ll \_mp\_rt\_d \_nd n\_w v\_h\_cl\_s. \_t w\_ll \_ls\_ b\_ th\_ \_nly \_nt\_ty th\_t c\_n \_mp\_rt f\_r\_\_gn c\_rs \_nt\_ th\_ c\_\_ntry. C\_b\_ns w\_ll n\_\_d t\_b\_y \_n \_mp\_rt\_d c\_r fr\_m th\_ g\_v\_rnm\_nt. \_cc\_rdn\_g t\_ th\_ C\_mm\_n\_st P\_rty n\_wsp\_p\_r, \_ll pr\_f\_ts fr\_m s\_l\_s w\_ll g\_ t\_w\_rds \_mpr\_v\_ng C\_b\_'s r\_\_ds \_nd tr\_nsp\_rt\_t\_\_n syst\_m. C\_r d\_\_l\_rs \_r\_ n\_t \_nt\_c\_p\_t\_ng \_h\_g\_ \_nfl\_x \_f s\_l\_s. M\_st p\_\_pl\_ \_n C\_b\_ c\_nn\_t \_ff\_rd\_t\_b\_y \_v\_n \_ \_s\_d c\_r, l\_t \_l\_n\_ \_n\_w \_n\_. H\_v\_n\_ r\_s\_d\_nt J\_rg\_ C\_ns\_ c\_mm\_nt\_d \_n th\_s, s\_y\_ng: "Y\_\_h, \_ c\_n b\_y \_n\_, b\_t w\_th wh\_t? \_nf\_rt\_n\_t\_ly \_\_r \_c\_n\_my d\_\_sn't \_ll\_w \_s\_t \_s\_v\_ m\_n\_y t\_b\_ \_bl\_ t\_b\_y \_n\_."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

cuba's government is making it easier for cubans to buy foreign made new and used cars the havana times reports that "the council of ministers of cuba decided at its current meeting to open up the retail sale of new and used motorcycles cars vans and minibuses" it added that the government would also "prioritize bicycle sales on the retail market" and offer them at very affordable prices new laws mean the government is further relaxing regulations on car ownership until 2011 people were not permitted to sell cars that were made after the 1959 cuban revolution this made havana look like it was in a time warp as every car on the road was a vintage model from yesteryear

the cuban government will set and control the price of all imported and new vehicles it will also be the only entity that can import foreign cars into the country cubans will need to buy an imported car from the government according to the communist party newspaper all profits from sales will go towards improving cuba's roads and transportation system car dealers are not anticipating a huge influx of sales most people in cuba cannot afford to buy even a used car let alone a new one havana resident jorge canso commented on this saying "yeah i can buy one but with what unfortunately our economy doesn't allow us to save money to be able to buy one"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131222-cuba.html>

Cuba's government is making it easier for Cubans to buy foreign-made, new and used cars. The Havana Times reports that: "The Council of Ministers of Cuba decided at its current meeting to open up the retail sale of new and used motorcycles, cars, vans and minibuses." It added that the government would also "prioritize bicycles sales on the retail market" and offer them at very affordable prices. News means the government is further relaxing regulations on car ownership. Until 2011, people were not permitted to sell cars that were made after the 1959 Cuban revolution. This made Havana look like it was in a time warp as every car on the road was a vintage model from yesteryear. The Cuban government will set and control the price of all imported and new vehicles. It will also be the only entity that can import foreign cars into the country. Cubans will need to buy an imported car from the government. According to the Communist Party newspaper, all profits from sales will go towards improving Cuba's roads and transportation system. Car dealers are not anticipating a huge influx of sales. Most people in Cuba cannot afford to buy even a used car, let alone a new one. Havana resident Jorge Cansoco commented on this, saying: "Yeah, I can buy one, but with what? Unfortunately our economy doesn't allow us to save money to be able to buy one."







# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about Cuba. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. VINTAGE CARS:** Make a poster about vintage cars. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. CUBA:** Write a magazine article about Cuba. Include imaginary interviews with people who live there and people who want to visit.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to Cuba's president. Ask him three questions about cars in Cuba. Give him three ideas that will help people buy a car. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d F    e F    f T    g T    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 1. current    | a. latest              |
| 2. affordable | b. inexpensive         |
| 3. further    | c. to a greater extent |
| 4. permitted  | d. allowed             |
| 5. yesteryear | e. the past            |
| 6. set        | f. fix                 |
| 7. entity     | g. organization        |
| 8. improving  | h. bettering           |
| 9. influx     | i. rush                |
| 10. allow     | j. let                 |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The Cuban government
2. At its recent meeting
3. Bicycle sales
4. 2011
5. Yesteryear
6. Prices of new and imported vehicles
7. Only Cuba's government
8. Improving Cuba's roads
9. A huge influx of sales
10. Not being able to save

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c    2. a    3. b    4. d    5. c    6. b    7. d    8. b    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)