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Level 1 – 4th September 2025

Campaigners want to stop 'carspreading' in cities

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-1.html>

An environmental group wants to stop "carspreading". This is when cars get too wide for parking spaces. It causes traffic jams and more accidents. The group is targeting cars like SUVs. These are increasing in number. There are 10 times more large cars in the UK now than 20 years ago. People want higher parking fees for SUVs because they take up more space. The group wants to copy Paris, which tripled parking costs for SUVs. That reduced their number.

The environmental group said: "Drivers are struggling to park because of 'carspreading', while people walking and cycling are more at risk." More than half of new cars in the UK are too wide to park. In addition, people hit by SUVs are more likely to die. Not everyone agrees with the group. The Alliance of British Drivers said it was unfair "to make life more expensive and unpleasant for people" who drive SUVs.

Sources: <https://cleancitiescampaign.org/carspreading/>
<https://news.sky.com/story/calls-to-charge-suv-drivers-more-for-parking-amid-carspreading-13420395>
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/aug/29/giant-cars-motoring-uk-public-safety-paris>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. cars get too wide for | a. cars in the UK now |
| 2. It causes traffic | b. up more space |
| 3. The group is targeting cars | c. number |
| 4. There are 10 times more large | d. jams |
| 5. they take | e. costs for SUVs |
| 6. The group wants to | f. parking spaces |
| 7. tripled parking | g. like SUVs |
| 8. That reduced their | h. copy Paris |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. environmental | a. risk |
| 2. Drivers are struggling | b. and cycling |
| 3. people walking | c. with the group |
| 4. more at | d. likely to die |
| 5. More than half of new | e. group |
| 6. people hit by SUVs are more | f. expensive |
| 7. Not everyone agrees | g. to park |
| 8. make life more | h. cars in the UK |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-1.html>

An environmental (1) _____ stop "carspreading". This is when cars get (2) _____ parking spaces. It causes traffic jams and more accidents. The group (3) _____ like SUVs. These are increasing in number. There are 10 (4) _____ cars in the UK now than 20 years ago. People want higher parking fees for SUVs because they (5) _____ space. The group wants to copy Paris, which tripled parking costs for SUVs. (6) _____ number.

The environmental group said: "Drivers (7) _____ park because of 'carspreading', while people walking and cycling are (8) _____." More than half of new cars in the UK are (9) _____ park. In addition, people hit by SUVs are more (10) _____. Not everyone agrees with the group. The Alliance of British Drivers said (11) _____ "to make life more expensive and unpleasant for (12) _____ SUVs.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-1.html>

An environmental group wants to stop "carspreading". This is when cars get too wide for parking spaces. It causes traffic jams and more accidents. The group is targeting cars like SUVs. These are increasing in number. There are 10 times more large cars in the UK now than 20 years ago. People want higher parking fees for SUVs because they take up more space. The group wants to copy Paris, which tripled parking costs for SUVs. That reduced their number. The environmental group said: "Drivers are struggling to park because of 'carspreading', while people walking and cycling are more at risk." More than half of new cars in the UK are too wide to park. In addition, people hit by SUVs are more likely to die. Not everyone agrees with the group. The Alliance of British Drivers said it was unfair "to make life more expensive and unpleasant for people" who drive SUVs.

CARS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about cars 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-1.html>

Write about **cars** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]