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Level 2 – 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-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-2.html>

An environmental group in the UK wants to stop "carspreading". This is the problem of cars getting too wide for parking spaces. It causes traffic jams, more accidents, and more fuel consumption. The group is targeting large cars like SUVs. These are increasing in number. A news website says there are 10 times more large cars in the UK now than 20 years ago. People want higher parking fees for SUVs. This is because bigger cars take up a lot more space. The group wants to copy Paris, which tripled parking costs for SUVs and reduced the number of the large cars in Paris.

The environmental group explained that: "Drivers are struggling to park because of 'carspreading', while people walking and cycling are more at risk." It said: "More than half of new cars in the UK are too wide for urban parking spaces." It added: "People hit by larger cars when walking or cycling are far less likely to survive." SUVs use around 20 per cent more fuel than smaller cars. 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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. An environmental | a. in number |
| 2. cars getting too wide | b. jams |
| 3. It causes traffic | c. up a lot more space |
| 4. fuel | d. the large cars |
| 5. These are increasing | e. consumption |
| 6. there are 10 times | f. group in the UK |
| 7. bigger cars take | g. more large cars |
| 8. reduced the number of | h. for parking spaces |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Drivers are struggling | a. of new cars |
| 2. people walking and cycling | b. likely to survive |
| 3. More than half | c. drive SUVs |
| 4. too wide for urban | d. are more at risk |
| 5. far less | e. with the group |
| 6. Not everyone agrees | f. life more expensive |
| 7. it was unfair to make | g. to park |
| 8. unpleasant for people who | h. parking spaces |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-2.html>

An (1) _____ the UK wants to stop "carspreading". This is the problem of cars (2) _____ for parking spaces. It causes traffic jams, more accidents, and (3) _____. The group is targeting large cars like SUVs. These are (4) _____. A news website says there are 10 times more large cars in the UK now than 20 years ago. People want (5) _____ for SUVs. This is because bigger cars take up a lot more space. The group wants to copy Paris, (6) _____ costs for SUVs and reduced the number of the large cars in Paris.

The environmental group explained that: "Drivers (7) _____ park because of 'carspreading', while people walking and cycling are (8) _____." It said: "More than half of new cars in the UK are too (9) _____ parking spaces." It added: "People hit by larger cars when walking or cycling are (10) _____ to survive." SUVs use around 20 per cent more fuel than smaller cars. Not (11) _____ the group. The Alliance of British Drivers said it was unfair "to make life more expensive (12) _____ people" who drive SUVs.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-2.html>

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CARS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2509/250904-carspreading-2.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-2.html>

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

[illegible]