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## **Level 1**

# **Castro and Obama in historic handshake**

**13th April, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1504/150413-castro-obama-1.html>

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1504/150413-castro-obama-1.html>

The USA and Cuba may soon have better relations. The leaders of the two countries shook hands at the Summit of the Americas in Panama. This is a meeting for North, Central and South America to discuss a better future together. The historic handshake is important. The two countries have spoken very little for 50 years. America stopped its citizens from visiting Cuba and banned most Cuban exports to the USA. The USA said Cuba sponsored terrorism.

The leaders will discuss the future together. It will be the highest-level talks since 1959. A US security advisor said: "The President strongly believes that an approach that was focused...totally on seeking to cut off the Cuban people from the USA had failed." President Obama thinks the Cuban people are "extraordinary" and have "huge potential". He said most Cubans want to move forward. Cuba and the USA are just 151 km apart.

Sources: <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/04/10/politics/obama-raul-castro-panama-cuba/index.html>  
<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/cuba/article18102170.html>

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1504/150413-castro-obama-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. better                      | a. hands               |
| 2. shook                       | b. to the USA          |
| 3. discuss a better            | c. little for 50 years |
| 4. The historic handshake      | d. terrorism           |
| 5. spoken very                 | e. relations           |
| 6. stopped its citizens from   | f. future together     |
| 7. banned most Cuban exports   | g. visiting Cuba       |
| 8. The USA said Cuba sponsored | h. is important        |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. The leaders will discuss the | a. people are "extraordinary" |
| 2. the highest-level talks      | b. forward                    |
| 3. A US security                | c. apart                      |
| 4. seeking to cut               | d. since 1959.                |
| 5. Obama thinks the Cuban       | e. future together            |
| 6. huge                         | f. advisor                    |
| 7. most Cubans want to move     | g. off the Cuban people       |
| 8. just 151 km                  | h. potential                  |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1504/150413-castro-obama-1.html>

The USA and Cuba (1) \_\_\_\_\_ better relations.

The leaders of the two countries (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the

Summit of the Americas in Panama. This

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ North, Central and South America to

discuss (4) \_\_\_\_\_ together. The historic

handshake is important. The two countries

(5) \_\_\_\_\_ little for 50 years. America stopped

its citizens from visiting Cuba and banned most Cuban exports to

the USA. The USA said Cuba (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The leaders will discuss (7) \_\_\_\_\_. It will be the

highest-level (8) \_\_\_\_\_. A US security advisor

said: "The President strongly believes (9) \_\_\_\_\_

that was focused...totally on (10) \_\_\_\_\_ off the

Cuban people from the USA had failed." President Obama thinks

the Cuban people are "extraordinary" and

(11) \_\_\_\_\_ ". He said most Cubans want to

move forward. Cuba and the USA are

(12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1504/150413-castro-obama-1.html>

TheUSAandCubamaysoonhavebetterrelations.Theleadersofthetwo countrieshookhandsattheSummitoftheAmericasinPanama.Thisisa meetingforNorth,CentralandSouthAmericatodiscussabetterfuture together.Thehistorichandshakeisimportant.Thetwocountrieshavespokenverylittlefor50years.AmericastoppeditscitizensfromvisitingCubaandbannedmostCubanexportstotheUSA.TheUSAidCubasonsoverredterrorism.Theleaderswilldiscussthefuturetogether.Itwillbethehighest-leveltalkssince1959.AUSsecurityadvisorsaid:"ThePresidentstronglybelievesthatanapproachthatwasfocused...totallyonseekingtocutofftheCubanpeoplefromtheUSAhadfailed."PresidentObamathinks theCubanpeopleare"extraordinary"andhave"hugepotential".HesaidmostCubanswanttomoveforward.CubaandtheUSAarejust151kilometers apart.

# WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a)

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b)

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c)

---

d)

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e)

---

f)

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g)

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h)

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*Castro and Obama in historic handshake – 13th April, 2015*  
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# WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

---

f)

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g)

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h)

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