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## Level 6

### Ghana visas for all African Union members

15th March, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.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/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Ghana's president, John Dramani Mahama, has announced that his country will issue visas to citizens of African Union member states from July. Anyone arriving at a port in Ghana bearing a passport from an African Union nation will be granted a visa, which could be for up to 30 days. President Mahama said his new initiative was aimed at bridging the gap between African citizens on the continent. He said: "With effect from July this year, we will be allowing citizens of AU member states to enter our country and obtain visas on arrival with the option to stay for up to 30 days and experience what our country has to offer. This measure, with time, should stimulate air travel, trade, investment and tourism."

The African Union Commission chairperson commended Ghana's efforts in helping to bring Africa closer together and reducing barriers to travel. She said: "After Ghana, I am convinced that many other African countries will follow suit, in the interest of achieving an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa." She added that the new visa policy would greatly benefit Ghana in its relations with other African countries. She said more countries needed to follow Ghana's example. Only 25 per cent of countries in Africa offer visas on arrival to other African nationals. This means it is actually easier for U.S. citizens to travel to and within Africa than it is for Africans to visit each other's countries.

Sources: <http://www.africanews.com/2016/02/25/african-citizens-to-get-easy-entry-into-ghana-in-july/>  
<http://www.newsghana.com.gh/au-agrees-to-ghanas-new-visa-rule-for-member-states/>  
<http://afkinsider.com/121071/121071>

# WARM-UPS

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

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

*Ghana / president / citizens / passport / initiative / continent / air travel / trade / barriers / convinced / integrated / prosperous / visa policy / visa policy / Africa*

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

**3. TRAVEL:** What are the good things about travelling? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good things	Bad things
Visas		
Transport		
Packing		
Hotels		
Food		
Money		

**4. NO VISAS:** Students A **strongly** believe there is no need for visas; Students B **strongly** believe there is. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. BENEFITS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the biggest benefits of visas at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- stimulate air travel
- trade
- cultural understanding
- immigration control
- tourism
- investment
- security
- revenue

**6. CITIZENS:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "citizens". 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/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

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

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. Ghana's vice-president announced his country's new visa policy.         | T / F |
| b. Citizens of African Union countries will get a visa for up to 30 days.  | T / F |
| c. Ghana's president said the visas would help bridge a gap in Africa.     | T / F |
| d. The president said the visas would be good for air travel.              | T / F |
| e. An AU spokeswoman doubted that other countries would copy Ghana.        | T / F |
| f. The spokeswoman said more countries needed to copy Ghana.               | T / F |
| g. Half of African countries give visas on arrival to other Africans.      | T / F |
| h. It is easier for Africans to travel in Africa than it is for Americans. | T / F |

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

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. announced  | a. nationals     |
| 2. issue      | b. encourage     |
| 3. initiative | c. obstacles     |
| 4. allowing   | d. measure       |
| 5. stimulate  | e. made it known |
| 6. commended  | f. wealthy       |
| 7. barriers   | g. lead          |
| 8. prosperous | h. provide       |
| 9. example    | i. praised       |
| 10. citizens  | j. letting       |

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

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. his country will issue        | a. peaceful Africa              |
| 2. bearing a passport            | b. from July this year          |
| 3. With effect                   | c. follow Ghana's example       |
| 4. stimulate air                 | d. and tourism                  |
| 5. trade, investment             | e. to travel                    |
| 6. Ghana's efforts in helping to | f. visas                        |
| 7. reducing barriers             | g. bring Africa closer together |
| 8. an integrated, prosperous and | h. travel                       |
| 9. more countries needed to      | i. and within Africa            |
| 10. travel to                    | j. from an African Union nation |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Ghana's president, John Dramani Mahama, has announced that his country will (1) \_\_\_\_\_ visas to citizens of African Union member states from July. Anyone arriving at a (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in Ghana bearing a passport from an African Union nation will be (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a visa, which could be for up to 30 days. President Mahama said his new (4) \_\_\_\_\_ was aimed at bridging the gap between African citizens on the continent. He said: "With effect from July this year, we will be allowing (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of AU member states to enter our country and obtain visas on arrival with the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to stay for up to 30 days and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ what our country has to offer. This measure, with time, should stimulate air travel, trade, investment and (8) \_\_\_\_\_."

*port*  
*citizens*  
*issue*  
*experience*  
*initiative*  
*tourism*  
*granted*  
*option*

The African Union Commission chairperson commended Ghana's (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in helping to bring Africa closer together and reducing (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to travel. She said: "After Ghana, I am convinced that many other African countries will follow (11) \_\_\_\_\_, in the interest of achieving an integrated, (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and peaceful Africa." She added that the new visa policy would greatly (13) \_\_\_\_\_ Ghana in its relations with other African countries. She said more countries needed to follow Ghana's (14) \_\_\_\_\_. Only 25 per cent of countries in Africa offer visas on arrival to other African (15) \_\_\_\_\_. This means it is (16) \_\_\_\_\_ easier for U.S. citizens to travel to and within Africa than it is for Africans to visit each other's countries.

*prosperous*  
*barriers*  
*nationals*  
*suit*  
*actually*  
*benefit*  
*efforts*  
*example*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

- 1) his country will issue visas to citizens of African Union member \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. states for July
  - b. state from July
  - c. state for July
  - d. states from July
- 2) Anyone arriving at a port in Ghana bearing a passport from an African Union nation \_\_\_\_\_ a visa
  - a. will be grant it
  - b. will be grunted
  - c. will be granted
  - d. will been granted
- 3) his new initiative was aimed at bridging the gap between African citizens \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in the continents
  - b. on the continent
  - c. on a continent
  - d. on the continents
- 4) we will be allowing citizens of AU member states to enter our country and \_\_\_\_\_ arrival
  - a. retain visas on
  - b. detain visas on
  - c. contain visas on
  - d. obtain visas on
- 5) with the option to stay for up to 30 days and experience what our country \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. have to offer
  - b. has to offers
  - c. has to offer
  - d. has to offering
- 6) Ghana's efforts in helping to bring Africa closer together and reducing \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. barriers to travel
  - b. barriers to travels
  - c. barrier to travel
  - d. barrier is to travel
- 7) She said: "After Ghana, I am convinced that many other African countries \_\_\_\_\_."
  - a. will follow suit
  - b. will follow soot
  - c. will follow suite
  - d. will follow shoot
- 8) She added that the new visa policy would greatly benefit Ghana \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in its relation
  - b. in its relatives
  - c. in its relations
  - d. in its relative
- 9) Only 25 per cent of countries in Africa offer visas on arrival to other \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. African nationalities
  - b. African nationalise
  - c. African nationals
  - d. African national is
- 10) This means it is actually easier for U.S. citizens to travel to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and with in Africa
  - b. and within Africa
  - c. and withering Africa
  - d. and witting Africa

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Ghana's president, John Dramani Mahama, has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ country will issue visas to citizens of African Union (2) \_\_\_\_\_ July. Anyone arriving at a port in Ghana bearing a passport from an African Union nation (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a visa, which could be for up to 30 days. President Mahama said his new initiative was aimed at (4) \_\_\_\_\_ between African citizens on the continent. He said: "With effect from July this year, we will be allowing citizens of AU member states to enter our country (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on arrival with the option to stay for up to 30 days and experience what our country has to offer. This measure, with time, should (6) \_\_\_\_\_, trade, investment and tourism."

The African Union Commission chairperson commended Ghana's efforts in helping to bring Africa closer together and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to travel. She said: "After Ghana, I am convinced that many other African countries (8) \_\_\_\_\_, in the interest of achieving an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa." She added (9) \_\_\_\_\_ policy would greatly benefit Ghana in its relations with other African countries. She said more countries (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Ghana's example. Only 25 per cent of countries in Africa offer (11) \_\_\_\_\_ other African nationals. This means it is actually easier for U.S. citizens to travel to and within Africa than it is for Africans (12) \_\_\_\_\_ other's countries.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

1. From when will Ghana start issuing visas to AU member state citizens?

---

2. How long could the visa be for?

---

3. What does Ghana's president hope the visas will bridge?

---

4. Where (or when) will AU member state citizens be able to get a visa?

---

5. What kind of travel might the visas stimulate?

---

6. What did the AU chairperson say the visas would reduce?

---

7. What did the AU chairperson say other countries would do?

---

8. Who did the AU chairperson say the new visa policy would benefit?

---

9. How many African countries offer visas on arrival to African nationals?

---

10. Who can travel within Africa more easily than Africans?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

1. From when will Ghana start issuing visas to AU member state citizens?
  - a) June
  - b) July
  - c) August
  - d) September
2. How long could the visa be for?
  - a) 60 days
  - b) 50 days
  - c) 40 days
  - d) 30 days
3. What does Ghana's president hope the visas will bridge?
  - a) the gap between Africans
  - b) a river
  - c) a sea
  - d) ideas
4. Where (or when) will AU member state citizens be able to get a visa?
  - a) at their hotel
  - b) on the airplane
  - c) on arrival
  - d) at an embassy
5. What kind of travel might the visas stimulate?
  - a) adventure travel
  - b) air travel
  - c) family travel
  - d) bus travel
6. What did the AU chairperson say the visas would reduce?
  - a) prices
  - b) immigration
  - c) barriers
  - d) costs
7. What did the AU chairperson say other countries would do?
  - a) nothing
  - b) close their barriers
  - c) spend more money
  - d) follow suit
8. Who did the AU chairperson say the new visa policy would benefit?
  - a) Ghana
  - b) Americans
  - c) all Africans
  - d) Europeans
9. How many African countries offer visas on arrival to African nationals?
  - a) 25%
  - b) 35%
  - c) 15%
  - d) 5%
10. Who can travel within Africa more easily than Africans?
  - a) Chinese
  - b) Americans
  - c) Australians
  - d) Europeans

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

## **Role A – Stimulate air travel**

You think stimulating air travel is the biggest benefit of visas. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their benefits aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): immigration control, tourism or security.

## **Role B – Immigration control**

You think immigration control is the biggest benefit of visas. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their benefits aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): stimulating air travel, tourism or security.

## **Role C – Tourism**

You think tourism is the biggest benefit of visas. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their benefits aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): immigration control, stimulating air travel or security.

## **Role D – Security**

You think security is the biggest benefit of visas. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their benefits aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): immigration control, tourism or stimulating air travel.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

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

<b>issue</b>	<b>visa</b>
--------------	-------------

- 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>• announced</li><li>• passport</li><li>• initiative</li><li>• effect</li><li>• experience</li><li>• air</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• efforts</li><li>• suit</li><li>• peaceful</li><li>• benefit</li><li>• 25</li><li>• U.S.</li></ul>
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# VISAS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Write five GOOD questions about visas 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.

## **VISAS DISCUSSION**

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

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'visa'?
- 3) What do you think about what you read?
- 4) What are visas for?
- 5) What do you think of applying for visas?
- 6) Should all of Africa be visa-free for Africans?
- 7) What is the best passport to have?
- 8) What do you think of your passport?
- 9) What experiences have you had of applying for visas?
- 10) What benefits will the free visas have for Ghana?

*Ghana visas for all African Union members – 15th March, 2016*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

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## **VISAS DISCUSSION**

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) What do you know about Ghana?
- 13) What are the disadvantages of this new initiative?
- 14) Should the world be visa-free?
- 15) How would visa-free travel help Africa?
- 16) What strange questions have you seen on visa forms?
- 17) What's the most you would pay for a visa?
- 18) Who will benefit most from Ghana's new visa initiative?
- 19) Why is it easier for U.S. citizens to travel to and in Africa?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask Ghana'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/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Ghana's president, John Dramani Mahama, has announced that his country will issue visas to citizens of African Union (1) \_\_\_\_\_ states from July. Anyone arriving at a port in Ghana (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a passport from an African Union nation will be granted a visa, which could be for (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to 30 days. President Mahama said his new initiative was aimed at bridging the gap between African citizens on the continent. He said: "With (4) \_\_\_\_\_ from July this year, we will be allowing citizens of AU member states to enter our country and obtain visas (5) \_\_\_\_\_ arrival with the option to stay for up to 30 days and experience what our country has to offer. This measure, with (6) \_\_\_\_\_, should stimulate air travel, trade, investment and tourism."

The African Union Commission chairperson commended Ghana's efforts (7) \_\_\_\_\_ helping to bring Africa closer together and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ barriers to travel. She said: "After Ghana, I am convinced that many other African countries will follow (9) \_\_\_\_\_, in the interest of achieving an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa." She added that the new visa policy would (10) \_\_\_\_\_ benefit Ghana in its relations with other African countries. She said more countries needed to follow Ghana's (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Only 25 per cent of countries in Africa offer visas on arrival to other African nationals. This means it is actually easier for U.S. citizens to travel to and within Africa than it is for Africans to visit (12) \_\_\_\_\_ other's countries.

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

- |     |               |              |                 |               |
|-----|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) members   | (b) member   | (c) membership  | (d) dismember |
| 2.  | (a) boring    | (b) bearing  | (c) barring     | (d) baring    |
| 3.  | (a) along     | (b) over     | (c) down        | (d) up        |
| 4.  | (a) affront   | (b) effect   | (c) effort      | (d) affect    |
| 5.  | (a) to        | (b) by       | (c) in          | (d) on        |
| 6.  | (a) yearly    | (b) hour     | (c) time        | (d) period    |
| 7.  | (a) in        | (b) at       | (c) on          | (d) to        |
| 8.  | (a) reduction | (b) reduces  | (c) reducing    | (d) reduced   |
| 9.  | (a) uniform   | (b) cloth    | (c) dress       | (d) suit      |
| 10. | (a) greatly   | (b) greatest | (c) great       | (d) greats    |
| 11. | (a) example   | (b) form     | (c) exemplified | (d) stuff     |
| 12. | (a) each      | (b) one      | (c) an          | (d) to        |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. issue visas to cietsniz
2. his new avnteiiti
3. African citizens on the tintonnec
4. natibo visas on arrival
5. tiusatmle air travel
6. trade, investment and tmorsui

## Paragraph 2

7. mddceonme Ghana's efforts
8. reducing srabrrie to travel
9. I am ivonncedc
10. an integrated, persrsooup and peaceful Africa
11. greatly inefetb
12. other African santlaoiin



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

( )	nation will be granted a visa, which could be for up to 30 days. President Mahama said his new initiative was aimed
( )	together and reducing barriers to travel. She said: "After Ghana, I am convinced that many
( )	at bridging the gap between African citizens on the continent. He said: "With effect from July this year, we will be
( <b>1</b> )	Ghana's president, John Dramani Mahama, has announced that his country will issue visas to citizens of African Union
( )	for U.S. citizens to travel to and within Africa than it is for Africans to visit each other's countries.
( )	The African Union Commission chairperson commended Ghana's efforts in helping to bring Africa closer
( )	relations with other African countries. She said more countries needed to follow Ghana's example. Only 25 per cent
( )	of countries in Africa offer visas on arrival to other African nationals. This means it is actually easier
( )	other African countries will follow suit, in the interest of achieving an integrated, prosperous and
( )	peaceful Africa." She added that the new visa policy would greatly benefit Ghana in its
( )	to stay for up to 30 days and experience what our country has to offer. This measure, with time, should
( )	member states from July. Anyone arriving at a port in Ghana bearing a passport from an African Union
( )	allowing citizens of AU member states to enter our country and obtain visas on arrival with the option
( )	stimulate air travel, trade, investment and tourism."

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

1. to African states visas of member Issue citizens Union .

---

2. in Ghana bearing a passport Anyone arriving at a port .

---

3. bridging citizens the gap Aimed between at African .

---

4. country Allowing citizens of AU member states to enter our .

---

5. option on the stay visas with to Obtain arrival .

---

6. efforts to closer Ghana's helping Africa in bring together .

---

7. will many follow other African Convinced countries that .

---

8. policy would The greatly new benefit visa Ghana .

---

9. needed Ghana's She countries follow more to example said .

---

10. actually to easier travel for U.S. This means it is citizens .

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Ghana's president, John Dramani Mahama, has *announcing / announced* that his country will *issue / issued* visas to citizens of African Union member states from July. Anyone *arrival / arriving* at a port in Ghana *bearing / boring* a passport from an African Union nation will be granted a visa, which could be for up to 30 days. President Mahama said his *new / newly* initiative was aimed at *bridging / bridged* the gap between African citizens on the continent. He said: "With *effect / affect* from July this year, we will be allowing citizens of AU member states to enter our country and *retain / obtain* visas on arrival with the option to stay for up to 30 days and experience *that / what* our country has to offer. This *measurement / measure*, with time, should stimulate air travel, trade, investment and tourism."

The African Union Commission chairperson *commended / commanded* Ghana's efforts in *help / helping* to bring Africa closer *together / apart* and reducing barriers *to / by* travel. She said: "After Ghana, I am convinced that many *others / other* African countries will follow *dress / suit*, in the interest of achieving an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa." She added that the new visa policy would greatly *beneficial / benefit* Ghana in its relations with other African countries. She said more countries needed to *track / follow* Ghana's example. Only 25 per cent of countries in Africa offer visas on arrival to other African nationals. This means it is actually *easily / easier* for U.S. citizens to travel to and within Africa than it is for Africans to visit each *other's / other* countries.

**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/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Gh\_n\_'s pr\_s\_d\_nt, J\_hn Dr\_m\_n\_ M\_h\_m\_, h\_s  
\_nn\_nc\_d th\_t h\_s c\_ntry w\_ll \_ss\_ v\_s\_s t\_  
c\_t\_z\_ns \_f\_ fr\_c\_n \_n\_n m\_mb\_r st\_t\_s fr\_m J\_ly.  
\_ny\_n\_ \_rr\_v\_ng \_t\_ \_p\_rt \_n Gh\_n\_ b\_\_r\_ng \_  
p\_ssp\_rt fr\_m \_n\_ fr\_c\_n \_n\_n n\_t\_n w\_ll b\_\_gr\_nt\_d  
\_v\_s\_, wh\_ch c\_\_ld b\_\_f\_r\_p\_t\_ 30 d\_ys. Pr\_s\_d\_nt  
M\_h\_m\_ s\_\_d h\_s n\_w \_n\_t\_t\_v\_ w\_s \_\_m\_d\_t  
br\_dg\_ng th\_ g\_p b\_\_tw\_\_n\_ fr\_c\_n c\_t\_z\_ns \_n th\_  
c\_nt\_n\_nt. H\_s\_\_d: "W\_th \_ff\_ct fr\_m J\_ly th\_s y\_\_r,  
w\_\_w\_ll b\_\_ll\_w\_ng c\_t\_z\_ns \_f\_\_ m\_mb\_r st\_t\_s t\_  
\_nt\_r\_\_r c\_ntry \_nd \_bt\_\_n v\_s\_s \_n \_rr\_v\_l w\_th  
th\_ \_pt\_\_n t\_ st\_y fr\_p\_t\_ 30 d\_ys \_nd \_xp\_r\_\_nc\_  
wh\_t \_\_r c\_ntry h\_s t\_ \_ff\_r. Th\_s m\_\_s\_r\_, w\_th  
t\_m\_, sh\_\_ld st\_m\_l\_t\_\_r tr\_v\_l, tr\_d\_, \_nv\_stm\_nt  
\_nd t\_\_r\_sm."

Th\_ \_fr\_c\_n \_n\_n C\_mm\_ss\_\_n ch\_\_rp\_rs\_n  
c\_mm\_nd\_d Gh\_n\_'s \_ff\_rts \_n h\_lp\_ng t\_ br\_ng \_fr\_c\_  
cl\_s\_r t\_g\_th\_r \_nd r\_d\_c\_ng b\_\_rr\_rs t\_ tr\_v\_l. Sh\_  
s\_\_d: "\_ft\_r Gh\_n\_, \_\_m c\_nv\_nc\_d th\_t m\_ny \_th\_r  
\_fr\_c\_n c\_\_ntr\_\_s w\_ll f\_ll\_w\_s\_\_t, \_n th\_ \_nt\_r\_st\_f  
\_ch\_\_v\_ng \_n \_nt\_gr\_t\_d, pr\_spr\_\_s \_nd p\_\_c\_f\_l  
\_fr\_c\_." Sh\_\_dd\_d th\_t th\_ n\_w v\_s\_ p\_l\_cy w\_\_ld  
gr\_\_tly b\_n\_f\_t Gh\_n\_ \_n \_ts r\_l\_t\_\_ns w\_th \_th\_r  
\_fr\_c\_n c\_\_ntr\_\_s. Sh\_s\_\_d m\_r\_c\_\_ntr\_\_s n\_\_d\_d t\_  
f\_ll\_w Gh\_n\_'s \_x\_mpl\_. \_nly 25 p\_r\_c\_nt \_f c\_\_ntr\_\_s  
\_n \_fr\_c\_ \_ff\_r v\_s\_s \_n \_rr\_v\_l t\_ \_th\_r \_fr\_c\_n  
n\_t\_n\_ls. Th\_s m\_\_ns \_t\_s \_ct\_\_lly \_\_s\_\_r fr \_\_.S.  
c\_t\_z\_ns t\_ tr\_v\_l t\_ \_nd w\_th\_n \_fr\_c\_ th\_n \_t\_s fr  
\_fr\_c\_ns t\_ v\_s\_t \_\_ch \_th\_r's c\_\_ntr\_\_s.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

ghana's president john dramani mahama has announced that his country will issue visas to citizens of african union member states from july anyone arriving at a port in ghana bearing a passport from an african union nation will be granted a visa which could be for up to 30 days president mahama said his new initiative was aimed at bridging the gap between african citizens on the continent he said "with effect from july this year we will be allowing citizens of au member states to enter our country and obtain visas on arrival with the option to stay for up to 30 days and experience what our country has to offer this measure with time should stimulate air travel trade investment and tourism"

the african union commission chairperson commended ghana's efforts in helping to bring africa closer together and reducing barriers to travel she said "after ghana i am convinced that many other african countries will follow suit in the interest of achieving an integrated prosperous and peaceful africa" she added that the new visa policy would greatly benefit ghana in its relations with other african countries she said more countries needed to follow ghana's example only 25 per cent of countries in africa offer visas on arrival to other african nationals this means it is actually easier for us citizens to travel to and within africa than it is for africans to visit each other's countries

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160315-ghana-visa.html>

Ghana's president, John Dramani Mahama, has announced that this country will issue visas to citizens of African Union member states from July. Anyone arriving at a port in Ghana bearing a passport from an African Union nation will be granted a visa, which could be for up to 30 days. President Mahama said his new initiative was aimed at bridging the gap between African citizens on the continent. He said: "With effect from July this year, we will be allowing citizens of AU member states to enter our country and obtain a visa on arrival with the option to stay for up to 30 days and experience what our country has to offer. This measure, with time, should stimulate air travel, trade, investment and tourism." The African Union Commission chairperson commended Ghana's efforts in helping to bring Africa closer together and reducing barriers to travel. She said: "After Ghana, I am convinced that many other African countries will follow suit, in the interest of achieving an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa." She added that the new visa policy would greatly benefit Ghana in its relations with other African countries. She said more countries needed to follow Ghana's example. Only 25 percent of countries in Africa offer visas on arrival to other African nationals. This means it is actually easier for U.S. citizens to travel to and within Africa than it is for Africans to visit each other's countries.







# 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 visas. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

**4. GHANA:** Write a magazine article about Ghana's new visa policy. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

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 an expert on international travel. Ask him/her three questions about visas. Give him/her three ideas on how to make the system better. 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 T    e F    f T    g F    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. announced  | a. made it known |
| 2. issue      | b. provide       |
| 3. initiative | c. measure       |
| 4. allowing   | d. letting       |
| 5. stimulate  | e. encourage     |
| 6. commended  | f. praised       |
| 7. barriers   | g. obstacles     |
| 8. prosperous | h. wealthy       |
| 9. example    | i. lead          |
| 10. citizens  | j. nationals     |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. July
2. 30 days
3. The gap between African citizens
4. On arrival
5. Air travel
6. Barriers to travel
7. Follow suit
8. Ghana
9. 25%
10. Americans

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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