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Level 5 – 10th August, 2021

Cuba allows people to own private businesses

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210810-cuba-business-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210810-cuba-business-5.html>

Cuba is legalising the ownership of small and medium-sized businesses. This is a huge shift in policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have been normal in Cuba since the 1959 revolution that brought Fidel Castro to power. He nationalised Cuba's industries and put them into state hands. Now entrepreneurs can operate businesses with up to 100 employees. The government's change of heart came after a month of street protests against worsening economic conditions. People also protested about a lack of food and the coronavirus pandemic.

Cuba's president said he would do more to improve the economy. Cuba relies on tourism to get foreign currency reserves. The coronavirus pandemic has greatly impacted this sector. Another key industry in Cuba is sugar. Bad weather and poor harvests have reduced revenues. Falling reserves of foreign currency means it has become difficult for Cuba to import food and medicine. An expert on Cuba said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have spent years striving, working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's economic well-being.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-58132000>
<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210807-cuba-legalizes-small-and-medium-enterprises-in-boost-for-private-sector>
<https://theguardian.com/world/2021/aug/10/cuba-legalizes-small-and-medium-sized-businesses/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210810-cuba-business-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. small and medium- | a. conditions |
| 2. a huge shift | b. ruled country |
| 3. the communist- | c. state hands |
| 4. since the 1959 | d. employees |
| 5. put them into | e. of heart |
| 6. businesses with up to 100 | f. sized businesses |
| 7. The government's change | g. revolution |
| 8. worsening economic | h. in policy |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Cuba relies | a. being |
| 2. get foreign currency | b. foreign currency |
| 3. Another key industry | c. on tourism |
| 4. Falling reserves of | d. trying to contribute |
| 5. import food and | e. in Cuba is sugar |
| 6. the private | f. medicine |
| 7. spent years striving, working and | g. sector |
| 8. Cuba's economic well- | h. reserves |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210810-cuba-business-5.html>

Cuba is legalising the (1) _____ and medium-sized businesses. This is a huge (2) _____ from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have been normal in Cuba since the 1959 (3) _____ Fidel Castro to power. He nationalised Cuba's industries and put them (4) _____. Now entrepreneurs can operate businesses with up to 100 employees. The government's (5) _____ came after a month of street protests against worsening economic conditions. People also protested about a (6) _____ and the coronavirus pandemic.

Cuba's president said he would do (7) _____ the economy. Cuba (8) _____ to get foreign currency reserves. The coronavirus pandemic has greatly impacted this sector. Another (9) _____ Cuba is sugar. Bad weather and poor harvests have reduced revenues. Falling reserves of (10) _____ it has become difficult for Cuba to import food and medicine. An expert on Cuba said "many entrepreneurs from the (11) _____ spent years striving, working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210810-cuba-business-5.html>

Cuba is legalising the ownership of small and medium-sized businesses. This is a huge shift in policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have been normal in Cuba since the 1959 revolution that brought Fidel Castro to power. He nationalised Cuba's industries and put them into state hands. Now entrepreneurs can operate businesses with up to 100 employees. The government's change of heart came after a month of street protests against worsening economic conditions. People also protested about a lack of food and the coronavirus pandemic. Cuba's president said he would do more to improve the economy. Cuba relies on tourism to get foreign currency reserves. The coronavirus pandemic has greatly impacted this sector. Another key industry in Cuba is sugar. Bad weather and poor harvests have reduced revenues. Falling reserves of foreign currency means it has become difficult for Cuba to import food and medicine. An expert on Cuba said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have spent years striving, working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's economic well-being.

CUBA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210810-cuba-business-4.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.

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) _____

