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Level 0

Major breakthrough in US-Cuba relations

19th December, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141219-us-cuba-relations-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141219-us-cuba-relations-0.html>

The USA and Cuba are friends again. It is the first time for over fifty years. Presidents Barack Obama and Raul Castro want normal relations. They want new diplomatic and economic ties. They want to say goodbye to the past. The two countries have talked secretly for a year. Pope Francis helped them.

The USA will not say that Cuba supports terrorism. It will be easier to travel to Cuba. There will be better telephone links. Trade between the two countries will restart. There has been no trade since 1960. Mr Castro worked hard to restore ties with the USA. He said Cuba and the USA must live together in peace.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-30516740>
<http://www.havanatimes.org/?p=107963>
http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/18/opinion/a-new-beginning-with-cuba.html?_r=0

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141219-us-cuba-relations-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The USA and Cuba | a. to the past |
| 2. It is the first | b. fifty years |
| 3. for over | c. them |
| 4. normal | d. time |
| 5. diplomatic and | e. are friends again |
| 6. They want to say goodbye | f. for a year |
| 7. talked secretly | g. relations |
| 8. Pope Francis helped | h. economic ties |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. supports | a. links |
| 2. It will be easier to | b. hard |
| 3. better telephone | c. terrorism |
| 4. Trade between the two countries | d. with the USA |
| 5. There has been no trade | e. travel to Cuba |
| 6. Mr Castro worked | f. in peace |
| 7. restore ties | g. since 1960 |
| 8. live together | h. will restart |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141219-us-cuba-relations-0.html>

The USA and Cuba (1) _____. It is the first time for (2) _____. Presidents Barack Obama and Raul Castro want (3) _____. They want new diplomatic (4) _____. They want to say goodbye to the past. The two countries (5) _____ for a year. Pope Francis (6) _____.

The USA will not say that Cuba (7) _____. It will be easier to travel to Cuba. (8) _____ telephone links. Trade between the two countries (9) _____. There has been (10) _____ 1960. Mr Castro worked (11) _____ ties with the USA. He said Cuba and the USA must live (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141219-us-cuba-relations-0.html>

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residentsBarackObamaandRaulCastrowantnormalrelations.Theywa
ntnewdiplomaticandeconomicities.Theywanttosaygoodbyetothe pas
t.The twocountrieshavetalkedsecretlyforayear.PopeFrancishelpedth
em.TheUSAwillnotsaythatCubasupportsterrorism.Itwillbeeasiertotr
aveltoCuba.Therewillbebettertelephonenumberlinks.Tradebetweenthe two
countrieswillrestart.Therhasbeennotradesince1960.MrCastrowork
edhardto restoretieswiththeUSA.HesaidCubaandtheUSAmustliveto
getherinpeace.

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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141219-us-cuba-relations-0.html>

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