

# www.Breaking News English.com

## Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

## Level 6

# Uruguay to legalise marijuana trade

**14th December, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

## Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
While Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

**Google +**



[plus.google.com/110990608764591804698/posts](https://plus.google.com/110990608764591804698/posts)

# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

Uruguay has become the first country in the world to legalise the marijuana trade, from the drug's production to its distribution. This means it is the only nation where the government has total control of the commercialisation of marijuana (also known as cannabis). Uruguay's President Jose Mujica said his goal is to try and disrupt the activities of drug traffickers and possibly put them out of business altogether. He hopes that his legalisation, together with the close monitoring of marijuana sales by the state, will reduce dependence on the drug and drug-related crime. Mr Mujica said he was well aware that the new legislation was "an experiment," which had no guarantee of being successful.

The legalisation has fallen foul of an international treaty on drug control. Uruguay is a signatory to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs. The Convention limits the use of cannabis "to medical and scientific purposes". The president of the International Narcotics Control Board, Raymond Yans, said he was "surprised" that Uruguay had "knowingly decided to break the universally agreed and internationally endorsed legal provisions of the treaty". He warned the move could backfire, saying: "It will not protect young people, but rather have the perverse effect of encouraging early experimentation, lowering the age of first use, and thus contributing to...earlier onset of addiction and other disorders."

Sources: <http://en.mercopress.com/2013/12/11/first-obstacle-for-uruguay-s-marijuana-bill-it-violates-international-convention-on-drug-control>  
<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2013-12-11/uruguay-oks-first-national-market-for-legal-pot>  
<http://www.economywatch.com/features/uruguay-legalises-marijuana-trade.12-12.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. THE WAR ON DRUGS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about the War on Drugs. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*legalise / the marijuana trade / total control / traffickers / drug-related crime / aware / fallen foul of / narcotics / backfire / protect young people / experimentation / addiction*

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

**3. WAR ON...:** How can we win these wars? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

War on...	How bad is the problem?	How to fight it?
drugs		
crime		
poverty		
want		
Internet piracy		
cyber-bullies		

**4. WINNABLE:** Students A **strongly** believe the War on Drugs is winnable; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. ADDICTION:** Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the worst at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- nicotine addiction
- shopaholic
- alcoholism
- addicted to TV
- gambling
- drug addiction
- caffeine addiction
- overeating

**6. TRAFFICKER:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "trafficker". 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/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

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

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. Uruguay is only the second country to legalise the cannabis trade.      | T / F |
| b. Uruguay's government is trying to put drug traffickers out of business. | T / F |
| c. Uruguay's government will carefully check sales of marijuana.           | T / F |
| d. The president of Uruguay knows his experiment might fail.               | T / F |
| e. Uruguay did not sign up to a 1961 convention on narcotic drugs.         | T / F |
| f. The 1961 convention let countries use drugs for medical reasons.        | T / F |
| g. The head of a world narcotics organisation liked Uruguay's idea.        | T / F |
| h. The organisation's boss said younger people will be turned off drugs.   | T / F |

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

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. legalise    | a. business      |
| 2. trade       | b. contrary      |
| 3. total       | c. upset         |
| 4. disrupt     | d. assurance     |
| 5. guarantee   | e. law           |
| 6. legislation | f. restricts     |
| 7. limits      | g. decriminalise |
| 8. purposes    | h. backed        |
| 9. endorsed    | i. complete      |
| 10. perverse   | j. grounds       |

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

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. legalise the                           | a. was an experiment       |
| 2. total control of the commercialisation | b. could backfire          |
| 3. try and disrupt the activities         | c. being successful        |
| 4. well aware that the new legislation    | d. an international treaty |
| 5. no guarantee of                        | e. marijuana trade         |
| 6. fallen foul of                         | f. purposes                |
| 7. a signatory to the                     | g. other disorders         |
| 8. internationally endorsed               | h. of drug traffickers     |
| 9. He warned the move                     | i. of marijuana            |
| 10. addiction and                         | j. 1961 Convention         |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

Uruguay has become the first country in the world to legalise the marijuana trade, from the drug's (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to its distribution. This means it is the only nation where the government has total (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the commercialisation of marijuana (also (3) \_\_\_\_\_ as cannabis). Uruguay's President Jose Mujica said his goal is to try and disrupt the activities of drug (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and possibly put them out of business (5) \_\_\_\_\_. He hopes that his legalisation, together with the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ monitoring of marijuana sales by the state, will reduce dependence on the drug and drug- (7) \_\_\_\_\_ crime. Mr Mujica said he was well aware that the new legislation was "an experiment," which had no (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of being successful.

*traffickers*  
*guarantee*  
*control*  
*altogether*  
*production*  
*related*  
*known*  
*close*

The legalisation has fallen (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of an international treaty on drug control. Uruguay is a signatory to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs. The Convention (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the use of cannabis "to medical and scientific purposes". The president of the International Narcotics Control Board, Raymond Yans, said he was "surprised" that Uruguay had "knowingly decided to (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the universally agreed and internationally (12) \_\_\_\_\_ legal provisions of the treaty". He warned the move could (13) \_\_\_\_\_, saying: "It will not protect young people, but rather have the perverse (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of encouraging early experimentation, (15) \_\_\_\_\_ the age of first use, and thus contributing to...earlier onset of addiction and other (16) \_\_\_\_\_."

*backfire*  
*disorders*  
*limits*  
*endorsed*  
*lowering*  
*foul*  
*break*  
*effect*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

- 1) legalise the marijuana trade, from the drug's production \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to its distributing
  - b. to its destination
  - c. to its indoctrination
  - d. to its distribution
- 2) the government has total control of the commercialisation \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for marijuana
  - b. of marijuana
  - c. all marijuana
  - d. have marijuana
- 3) President Jose Mujica said his goal is to try and disrupt the activities \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of drug trafficking
  - b. of drug trafficked
  - c. of drug traffic as
  - d. of drug traffickers
- 4) possibly put them out of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. business all together
  - b. business altogether
  - c. business all to gather
  - d. business also gather
- 5) an experiment which had no guarantee \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of been successful
  - b. of having been successful
  - c. of being successful
  - d. of be in successful
- 6) The legalisation has fallen foul of an international \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. treaty on drug control
  - b. treat tea on drug control
  - c. tree tea on drug control
  - d. tree tie on drug control
- 7) The Convention limits the use of cannabis to medical and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. scientific purposes
  - b. scientific purpose
  - c. scientific purpose is
  - d. scientific porpoises
- 8) the universally agreed and internationally endorsed legal \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. provisional of the treaty
  - b. provisions of the treaty
  - c. provision as of the treaty
  - d. provision is of the treaty
- 9) encouraging early experimentation, lowering the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. age of first used
  - b. age of first uses
  - c. age of first usage
  - d. age of first use
- 10) contributing to earlier onset of addiction and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. other this orders
  - b. other dissuaders
  - c. other disturbers
  - d. other disorders

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

Uruguay has become the first country in the world to legalise the marijuana trade, from the drug's production (1) \_\_\_\_\_. This means it is the only nation where the government (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the commercialisation of marijuana (also known as cannabis). Uruguay's President Jose Mujica said his goal is (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the activities of drug traffickers and possibly put them out of business altogether. He hopes that his legalisation, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ monitoring of marijuana sales by the state, will reduce dependence on the drug and drug-related crime. Mr Mujica said (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that the new legislation was "an experiment," which (6) \_\_\_\_\_ being successful.

The legalisation (7) \_\_\_\_\_ an international treaty on drug control. Uruguay is a signatory to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs. The Convention (8) \_\_\_\_\_ cannabis "to medical and scientific purposes". The president of the International Narcotics Control Board, Raymond Yans, said he was "surprised" that Uruguay had "knowingly decided to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ agreed and internationally endorsed legal provisions of the treaty". He warned the (10) \_\_\_\_\_, saying: "It will not protect young people, but (11) \_\_\_\_\_ effect of encouraging early experimentation, lowering the age of first use, and thus contributing to...earlier onset of addiction (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

1. How many countries had legalized the marijuana trade before Uruguay?

---

2. What does Uruguay have total control of?

---

3. What does the president of Uruguay want to disrupt?

---

4. What does he hope the new legislation will reduce?

---

5. What is the president well aware of?

---

6. What has Uruguay's legislation fallen foul of?

---

7. What did the 1961 treaty allow governments to do?

---

8. What was Raymond Yans' reaction to Uruguay's actions?

---

9. What did Mr Yans warn could happen to the legislation?

---

10. Who did Mr Yans say the legislation would not protect?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

1. How many countries had legalized the marijuana trade before Uruguay?
  - a) three
  - b) two
  - c) one
  - d) none
2. What does Uruguay have total control of?
  - a) the War on Drugs
  - b) the commercialisation of marijuana
  - c) drug traffickers
  - d) drug addicts
3. What does the president of Uruguay want to disrupt?
  - a) plantations
  - b) legislation
  - c) drug traffickers' activities
  - d) cannabis
4. What does he hope the new legislation will reduce?
  - a) crime resulting from drug use
  - b) the price of marijuana
  - c) traffic
  - d) legislation
5. What is the president well aware of?
  - a) success
  - b) guarantees
  - c) the legislation is an experiment
  - d) dependence on drugs
6. What has Uruguay's legislation fallen foul of?
  - a) limits
  - b) an international drug-control treaty
  - c) legislation
  - d) drugs
7. What did the 1961 treaty allow governments to do?
  - a) produce alternative drugs
  - b) commercialise the cannabis trade
  - c) imprison people for using cannabis
  - d) use cannabis for medical purposes
8. What was Raymond Yans' reaction to Uruguay's actions?
  - a) surprise
  - b) delight
  - c) wonder
  - d) horror
9. What did Mr Yans warn could happen to the legislation?
  - a) it could backup
  - b) it could back away
  - c) it could backfire
  - d) it could back down
10. Who did Mr Yans say the legislation would not protect?
  - a) legislators
  - b) young people
  - c) drug traffickers
  - d) Uruguay's president

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

## **Role A – War on Drugs**

You think the War on Drugs is most important. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are difficult about their war. Also, tell the others which of these should be last on the list to fight (and why): the War on Poverty, the War on Terror or the War on Cyber-bullies.

## **Role B – War on Poverty**

You think the War on Poverty is most important. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are difficult about their war. Also, tell the others which of these should be last on the list to fight (and why): the War on Drugs, the War on Terror or the War on Cyber-bullies.

## **Role C – War on Terror**

You think the War on Terror is most important. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are difficult about their war. Also, tell the others which of these should be last on the list to fight (and why): the War on Poverty, the War on Drugs or the War on Cyber-bullies.

## **Role D – War on Cyber-bullies**

You think the War on Cyber-bullies is most important. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are difficult about their war. Also, tell the others which of these should be last on the list to fight (and why): the War on Poverty, the War on Terror or the War on Drugs.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

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

<b>drug</b>	<b>trade</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>• first</li><li>• only</li><li>• goal</li><li>• business</li><li>• sales</li><li>• guarantee</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• fallen</li><li>• limits</li><li>• surprised</li><li>• warned</li><li>• age</li><li>• addiction</li></ul>
--	--

# THE WAR ON DRUGS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the War on Drugs 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.

# THE WAR ON DRUGS DISCUSSION

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

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'drug'?
- c) What do you think of Uruguay's actions?
- d) What view does your government take on drugs?
- e) How do narcotic drugs affect your country?
- f) Do you think other countries will copy Uruguay?
- g) Can the world ever win the War on Drugs?
- h) The USA is still fighting its 40-year-old war on drugs? Why so long?
- i) Are drug traffickers cleverer than the police who try to catch them?
- j) What happens if Uruguay's experiment is not successful?

*Uruguay to legalise marijuana trade – 14th December, 2013*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

---

# THE WAR ON DRUGS DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Would drug-related crime if the government controlled sales?
- c) Is cannabis OK for medical purposes?
- d) Should legal action be taken against Uruguay for breaking its agreement?
- e) What are the consequences of Uruguay's legislation backfiring?
- f) How could the legislation protect young people?
- g) How could the legislation put drug traffickers out of business?
- h) Do you think the legislation will lead to greater drug abuse?
- i) How can society help drug addicts?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Uruguay's president?

## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com 2013

-----

## 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/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

Uruguay has become the first country in the world to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the marijuana trade, from the drug's production to its distribution. This means it is the only nation where the government has total control of the commercialisation of marijuana (also (2) \_\_\_\_\_ as cannabis). Uruguay's President Jose Mujica said his goal is to try and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the activities of drug traffickers and possibly put them out of business altogether. He hopes that his legalisation, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ with the close monitoring of marijuana sales by the state, will reduce dependence on the drug and drug-related crime. Mr Mujica said he was (5) \_\_\_\_\_ aware that the new legislation was "an experiment," which had no (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of being successful.

The legalisation has fallen (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of an international treaty on drug control. Uruguay is a signatory to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs. The Convention limits the use of cannabis "to medical and scientific (8) \_\_\_\_\_ ". The president of the International Narcotics Control Board, Raymond Yans, said he was "surprised" that Uruguay had "(9) \_\_\_\_\_ decided to break the universally agreed and internationally endorsed legal (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of the treaty". He warned the move could backfire, saying: "It will not protect young people, but rather have the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ effect of encouraging early experimentation, lowering the age of first use, and thus contributing to...earlier onset of (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and other disorders."

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

- |     |               |                 |                 |                |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) condone   | (b) go ahead    | (c) OK          | (d) legalise   |
| 2.  | (a) knowingly | (b) knew        | (c) knowing     | (d) known      |
| 3.  | (a) corrupt   | (b) disrupt     | (c) abrupt      | (d) erupt      |
| 4.  | (a) plus      | (b) conjunction | (c) together    | (d) unison     |
| 5.  | (a) nice      | (b) total       | (c) well        | (d) sure       |
| 6.  | (a) guarantee | (b) promissory  | (c) warranty    | (d) bond       |
| 7.  | (a) foal      | (b) foul        | (c) feel        | (d) fail       |
| 8.  | (a) purposes  | (b) porpoises   | (c) presupposes | (d) presuppose |
| 9.  | (a) knowing   | (b) knowingly   | (c) knew        | (d) known      |
| 10. | (a) provisos  | (b) proves      | (c) provisions  | (d) privations |
| 11. | (a) pervades  | (b) pre-verse   | (c) perverse    | (d) pervert    |
| 12. | (a) addicts   | (b) addictive   | (c) addicted    | (d) addiction  |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. the clsoaocmeiitamnr / eaioizlmctaorcinm of marijuana
2. irsutdp the activities
3. drug ferikafsrtc
4. his ienslalogita / elitonzagail
5. reduce enpeddneec on the drug
6. no rtaegneau of being successful

## Paragraph 2

7. a ronitygas to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs
8. medical and scientific sueppsro
9. Uruguay had ynklwgnoi decided
10. internationally endorsed legal ivripososn
11. the pvrresee effect of encouraging early experimentation
12. incoadidt and other disorders



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) legislation was "an experiment," which had no guarantee of being successful.
- ( ) production to its distribution. This means it is the only nation where the government has total
- ( ) to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs. The Convention limits the use of cannabis "to medical and
- ( ) young people, but rather have the perverse effect of encouraging early experimentation, lowering
- ( **1** ) Uruguay has become the first country in the world to legalise the marijuana trade, from the drug's
- ( ) dependence on the drug and drug-related crime. Mr Mujica said he was well aware that the new
- ( ) the age of first use, and thus contributing to...earlier onset of addiction and other disorders."
- ( ) that Uruguay had "knowingly decided to break the universally agreed and internationally endorsed legal
- ( ) control of the commercialisation of marijuana (also known as cannabis). Uruguay's President Jose Mujica said his goal
- ( ) The legalisation has fallen foul of an international treaty on drug control. Uruguay is a signatory
- ( ) provisions of the treaty". He warned the move could backfire, saying: "It will not protect
- ( ) is to try and disrupt the activities of drug traffickers and possibly put them out of business
- ( ) altogether. He hopes that his legalisation, together with the close monitoring of marijuana sales by the state, will reduce
- ( ) scientific purposes". The president of the International Narcotics Control Board, Raymond Yans, said he was "surprised"

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

1. trade marijuana the legalise to world the in country first The.

---

2. marijuana commercialisation of Total of the control.

---

3. drug To disrupt of and activities traffickers try the.

---

4. state close marijuana the The of by monitoring sales.

---

5. drug and drug - related crime Reduce dependence on the.

---

6. fallen an has of treaty legalisation foul international The.

---

7. cannabis of use the limits Convention The.

---

8. of provisions legal endorsed Internationally treaty the.

---

9. The experimentation early encouraging of effect perverse.

---

10. to onset addiction Contributing earlier of.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

Uruguay has become the first country in the world to legalise *the* / *a* marijuana trade, from the drug's *production* / *producing* to its distribution. This means it is the only nation where the government has *totally* / *total* control of the commercialisation of marijuana (also *knowing* / *known* as cannabis). Uruguay's President Jose Mujica said his goal is to *trial* / *try* and disrupt the activities of drug *traffickers* / *traffics* and possibly put them out of *business* / *businesses* altogether. He hopes that his legalisation, together with the *closely* / *close* monitoring of marijuana sales by the state, will reduce *dependence* / *independence* on the drug and drug-related crime. Mr Mujica said he was well aware that the new legislation was "an experiment," which had no *warranty* / *guarantee* of being successful.

The legalisation has fallen *foul* / *fouled* of an international treaty on drug control. Uruguay is a *signature* / *signatory* to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs. The Convention *limits* / *limitations* the use of cannabis "to medical and *scientific* / *scientifically* purposes". The president of the International Narcotics Control *Board* / *Plank*, Raymond Yans, said he was "surprised" that Uruguay had "knowingly decided to *breech* / *break* the universally agreed and internationally *dorsal* / *endorsed* legal provisions of the treaty". He warned the move could *backfire* / *fire back*, saying: "It will not protect young people, but rather have the *pervert* / *perverse* effect of encouraging early experimentation, lowering the age of first use, and thus contributing to...earlier onset of addiction and other *disorders* / *orders*."

**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/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

\_r\_g\_\_y h\_s b\_c\_m\_ th\_ f\_rst c\_\_ntry \_n th\_ w\_rld t\_  
l\_g\_l\_s\_ th\_ m\_r\_j\_\_n\_ tr\_d\_, fr\_m th\_ dr\_g's  
pr\_d\_ct\_\_n t\_ \_ts d\_str\_b\_t\_\_n. Th\_s m\_\_ns \_t \_s th\_  
\_nly n\_t\_\_n wh\_r\_ th\_ g\_v\_rnm\_nt h\_s t\_t\_l c\_ntr\_l \_f  
th\_ c\_mm\_rc\_\_l\_s t\_\_n \_f m\_r\_j\_\_n\_ (\_ls\_ kn\_wn \_s  
c\_nn\_b\_s). \_r\_g\_\_y's Pr\_s\_d\_nt J\_s\_ M\_j\_c\_ s\_\_d h\_s  
g\_\_l\_s t\_ try \_nd d\_sr\_pt th\_ \_ct\_v\_t\_\_s \_f dr\_g  
tr\_ff\_ck\_rs \_nd p\_ss\_bly p\_t th\_m \_\_t \_f b\_s\_n\_ss  
\_lt\_g\_th\_r. H\_ h\_p\_s th\_t h\_s l\_g\_l\_s\_t\_\_n, t\_g\_th\_r  
w\_th th\_ cl\_s\_ m\_n\_t\_r\_ng \_f m\_r\_j\_\_n\_ s\_l\_s by th\_  
st\_t\_, w\_ll r\_d\_c\_ d\_p\_nd\_nc\_ \_n th\_ dr\_g \_nd dr\_g-  
r\_l\_t\_d cr\_m\_. Mr M\_j\_c\_ s\_\_d h\_ w\_s w\_ll \_w\_r\_ th\_t  
th\_ n\_w l\_g\_sl\_t\_\_n w\_s "\_n \_xp\_r\_m\_nt," wh\_ch h\_d  
n\_g\_\_r\_nt\_\_ \_f b\_\_ng s\_cc\_ss\_f\_l.

Th\_ l\_g\_l\_s\_t\_\_n h\_s f\_ll\_n f\_\_l \_f \_n \_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l  
tr\_\_ty \_n dr\_g c\_ntr\_l. \_r\_g\_\_y \_s \_s\_gn\_t\_ry t\_ th\_  
1961 C\_nv\_nt\_\_n \_n N\_rc\_t\_c Dr\_gs. Th\_ C\_nv\_nt\_\_n  
l\_m\_ts th\_ \_s\_ \_f c\_nn\_b\_s "t\_ m\_d\_c\_l \_nd  
sc\_\_nt\_f\_c p\_r\_p\_s\_s". Th\_ pr\_s\_d\_nt \_f th\_  
\_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l N\_rc\_t\_cs C\_ntr\_l B\_\_rd, R\_ym\_nd Y\_ns,  
s\_\_d h\_ w\_s "s\_rpr\_s\_d" th\_t \_r\_g\_\_y h\_d "kn\_w\_ngly  
d\_c\_d\_d t\_ br\_\_k th\_ \_n\_v\_rs\_lly \_gr\_\_d \_nd  
\_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_lly \_nd rs\_d l\_g\_l pr\_v\_s\_\_ns \_f th\_  
tr\_\_ty". H\_ w\_rn\_d th\_ m\_v\_ c\_\_ld b\_ckf\_r\_, s\_y\_ng:  
"\_t w\_ll n\_t pr\_t\_ct y\_\_ng p\_\_pl\_, b\_t r\_th\_r h\_v\_ th\_  
p\_rv\_rs\_ \_ff\_ct \_f \_nc\_\_r\_g\_ng \_\_rly  
\_xp\_r\_m\_nt\_t\_\_n, l\_w\_r\_ng th\_ \_g\_ \_f f\_rst \_s\_, \_nd  
th\_s c\_ntr\_b\_t\_ng t\_... \_rl\_\_r \_ns\_t \_f \_dd\_ct\_\_n \_nd  
\_th\_r d\_s\_r\_d\_rs."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

uruguay has become the first country in the world to legalise the marijuana trade from the drug's production to its distribution this means it is the only nation where the government has total control of the commercialisation of marijuana (also known as cannabis) uruguay's president jose mujica said his goal is to try and disrupt the activities of drug traffickers and possibly put them out of business altogether he hopes that his legalisation together with the close monitoring of marijuana sales by the state will reduce dependence on the drug and drug-related crime mr mujica said he was well aware that the new legislation was "an experiment" which had no guarantee of being successful

the legalisation has fallen foul of an international treaty on drug control uruguay is a signatory to the 1961 convention on narcotic drugs the convention limits the use of cannabis "to medical and scientific purposes" the president of the international narcotics control board raymond yans said he was "surprised" that uruguay had "knowingly decided to break the universally agreed and internationally endorsed legal provisions of the treaty" he warned the move could backfire saying "it will not protect young people but rather have the perverse effect of encouraging early experimentation lowering the age of first use and thus contributing to...earlier onset of addiction and other disorders"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

Uruguay has become the first country in the world to legalise the marijuana trade, from the drug's production to its distribution. This means it is the only nation where the government has total control of the commercialisation of marijuana (also known as cannabis). Uruguay's President Jose Mujica said his goal is to try and disrupt the activities of drug traffickers and possibly put them out of business altogether. He hopes that this legalisation, together with the close monitoring of marijuana sales by the state, will reduce dependence on the drug and drug-related crime. Mr Mujica said he was well aware that the new legislation was "an experiment," which had no guarantee of being successful. The legalisation has fallen foul of an international treaty on drug control. Uruguay is a signatory to the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs. The Convention limits the use of cannabis "to medical and scientific purposes". The president of the International Narcotics Control Board, Raymond Yans, said he was "surprised" that Uruguay had "knowingly decided to break the universally agreed and internationally endorsed legal provisions of the treaty". He warned the move could backfire, saying: "It will not protect young people, but rather have the perverse effect of encouraging early experimentation, lowering the age of first use, and thus contributing to earlier onset of addiction and other disorders."

## FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

Write about the **War on Drugs** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]

# ACADEMIC WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1312/131214-marijuana.html>

*The War on Drugs will never be won.* Discuss.

[illegible]



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

**3. THE WAR ON DRUGS:** Make a poster about the War on Drugs. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. MARIJUANA:** Write a magazine article about Uruguay's new laws on commercialising marijuana. 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 Uruguay's president. Ask him three questions about the War on Drugs. Give him three of your ideas on how to fight it. 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. legalise    | a. decriminalise |
| 2. trade       | b. business      |
| 3. total       | c. complete      |
| 4. disrupt     | d. upset         |
| 5. guarantee   | e. assurance     |
| 6. legislation | f. law           |
| 7. limits      | g. restricts     |
| 8. purposes    | h. grounds       |
| 9. endorsed    | i. backed        |
| 10. perverse   | j. contrary      |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. None
2. The commercialisation of marijuana
3. The activities of drug traffickers
4. Drug use and drug-related crime
5. That the legislation is an experiment
6. An international treaty on drug control
7. Use cannabis for medical and scientific purposes
8. Surprise
9. It could backfire
10. Young people

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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