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Level 2 – 13th May, 2019

Cuba starts rationing food and other products

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190513-rationing-in-cuba-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190513-rationing-in-cuba-2.html>

Cuba has announced it will start rationing food and other basic products. It says beans, chicken, eggs, rice, soap and other goods will be rationed. Cuba is facing a serious economic crisis. There are many shortages of food and other things. This is because the USA has changed how it is trading with Cuba. The U.S. trade embargo makes it very difficult for Cuba to buy food. However, many economists say there is a bigger reason for the shortages. This is the cut in fuel aid from Venezuela. A crisis in Venezuela has led to a two-thirds cut in cheap fuel to Cuba.

Cuba imports about two-thirds of its food. A lot of this came from the USA. Cuba spent about \$2 billion a year on food imports. The US embargo and the crisis in Venezuela means Cuba can import less food. Many supermarket shelves are empty. Many people have to stand in line in shops. The government has started rationing to stop people buying and keeping food. If people do this, there is less food for others. One store in the capital city Havana said people could not buy more than four packets of powdered milk and four packs of sausages. One shopper said life was "tough".

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-48237319>
<https://www.voanews.com/a/cuba-begins-widespread-rationing-in-face-of-crisis/4913153.html>
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-cuba-economy/cuba-to-ration-more-products-due-to-economic-crisis-us-sanctions-idUSKCN1SG2HA>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190513-rationing-in-cuba-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Cuba has announced it will start | a. economic crisis |
| 2. other basic | b. in cheap fuel |
| 3. Cuba is facing a serious | c. from Venezuela |
| 4. The U.S. trade | d. products |
| 5. difficult for Cuba | e. embargo |
| 6. there is a bigger reason for | f. rationing food |
| 7. the cut in fuel aid | g. to buy food |
| 8. a two-thirds cut | h. the shortages |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Cuba imports about two- | a. less food |
| 2. A lot of this | b. was "tough" |
| 3. about \$2 billion a year | c. city |
| 4. Cuba can import | d. came from the USA |
| 5. Many supermarket | e. milk |
| 6. One store in the capital | f. on food imports |
| 7. powdered | g. thirds of its food |
| 8. One shopper said life | h. shelves are empty |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190513-rationing-in-cuba-2.html>

Cuba has announced (1) _____ rationing food and other basic products. It says beans, chicken, (2) _____ and other goods will be rationed. Cuba is facing a serious economic crisis. There are (3) _____ food and other things. This is because the USA has changed how it is trading with Cuba. The U.S. trade (4) _____ very difficult for Cuba to buy food. However, many economists say there is (5) _____ for the shortages. This is the cut in fuel aid from Venezuela. A crisis in Venezuela has led (6) _____ cut in cheap fuel to Cuba.

Cuba imports about two-thirds (7) _____. A lot of this came from the USA. Cuba spent about \$2 billion a year on food imports. The US embargo (8) _____ in Venezuela means Cuba can import less food. Many supermarket shelves are empty. Many people have (9) _____ line in shops. The government has started rationing to stop people buying and keeping food. If people do this, there is (10) _____ others. One store in (11) _____ Havana said people could not buy more than four packets of powdered milk and four packs of sausages. One shopper said (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190513-rationing-in-cuba-2.html>

Cuba has announced it will start rationing food and other basic products. It says beans, chicken, eggs, rice, soap and other goods will be rationed. Cuba is facing a serious economic crisis. There are many shortages of food and other things. This is because the USA has changed how it is trading with Cuba. The U.S. trade embargo makes it very difficult for Cuba to buy food. However, many economists say there is a bigger reason for the shortages. This is the cut in fuel aid from Venezuela. A crisis in Venezuela has led to a two-thirds cut in cheap fuel to Cuba. Cuba imports about two-thirds of its food. A lot of this came from the USA. Cuba spent about \$2 billion a year on food imports. The US embargo and the crisis in Venezuela means Cuba can't import less food. Many supermarket shelves are empty. Many people have to stand in line in shops. The government has started rationing to stop people buying and keeping food. If people do this, there is less food for others. One store in the capital city Havana said people could not buy more than four packets of powdered milk and four packs of sausages. One shopper said life was "tough".

CUBA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190513-rationing-in-cuba-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) _____

