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Level 6 – 10th August, 2021

Cuba allows people to own private businesses

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

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

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

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THE ARTICLE

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

The government in Cuba is legalising the ownership of small and medium-sized businesses. This represents a monumental shift in policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have traditionally been the norm in Cuba, following the revolution in 1959 that brought Fidel Castro to power. He nationalised Cuba's industries to put them into state hands. The new policy allows entrepreneurs to operate businesses that have up to 100 employees. The change of heart from the government came after a month of street protests. Thousands of Cubans demonstrated against dire economic conditions. People also protested about a lack of food and the handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said he would introduce new initiatives to revitalise his country's economy. Cuba relies on tourism for much of its foreign currency reserves. Global restrictions on travel during the pandemic have severely impacted this sector. Another key industry in Cuba is the production of sugar. Bad weather has resulted in poor harvests and reduced revenues. These events have depleted the government's reserves of foreign currency, which means it has become difficult for the country to import food and medicine. Cuba expert O'Neill Diaz 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/cuba-legalizes-small-and-medium-sized-businesses/>

WARM-UPS

1. CUBA: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Cuba. 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?

government / ownership / businesses / policy / the norm / revolution / heart / food / initiative / economy / tourism / pandemic / sugar / revenue / medicine / well-being

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

3. STATE-RUN: Students A **strongly** believe state-run companies are best for a country; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. BUSINESSES: What would the pros and cons be of owning these businesses? How good would you be as boss? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

| | Pros | Cons | Me as Boss |
|---------------|------|------|------------|
| Farmer | | | |
| Bookshop | | | |
| Party goods | | | |
| Photographer | | | |
| Coder | | | |
| English tutor | | | |

5. COMMUNIST: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "communist". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. PROTESTS: Rank these with your partner. Put the things you would protest in the streets about at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- increasing taxes
- corruption
- inequality
- austerity
- climate change
- nuclear war
- rising prices
- coronavirus

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. legalising | a. Great in importance, extent, or size. |
| 2. monumental | b. A nation or territory considered as an organized political community under one government. |
| 3. the norm | c. Making something lawful to do. |
| 4. state | d. Extremely serious or urgent. |
| 5. entrepreneur | e. A person who organizes and operates a business or businesses, taking on greater than normal financial risks in order to do so. |
| 6. dire | f. Managing a situation or problem. |
| 7. handling | g. Something that is usual, typical, or standard. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 8. initiative | h. Making great efforts to achieve or obtain something. |
| 9. revitalise | i. The limitation or control of someone or something. |
| 10. reserves | j. The process or period of gathering in crops. |
| 11. restriction | k. An act or strategy intended to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation; a fresh approach to something. |
| 12. harvest | l. Give something new life. |
| 13. expert | m. A person who has a comprehensive and authoritative knowledge of or skill in a particular area. |
| 14. striving | n. A supply of something not needed for immediate use but available if required. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

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

1. Entrepreneurs can now start any size of company in Cuba. **T / F**
2. There was a revolution in Cuba in 1959. **T / F**
3. Street protests prompted a change of heart from the government. **T / F**
4. People protested in the streets about food shortages. **T / F**
5. Cuba's president said there would be no further initiatives after this one. **T / F**
6. Cuba had a bumper sugar harvest this year. **T / F**
7. Bad weather has helped to reduce Cuba's foreign currency reserves. **T / F**
8. Entrepreneurs have worked to help Cuba's economic well-being. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. monumental | a. plans |
| 2. norm | b. managing |
| 3. operate | c. play a part |
| 4. protested | d. used up |
| 5. handling | e. gigantic |
| 6. initiatives | f. run |
| 7. severely | g. business person |
| 8. depleted | h. demonstrated |
| 9. entrepreneur | i. seriously |
| 10. contribute | j. standard |

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

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. This represents a monumental shift | a. been the norm |
| 2. State-owned companies have traditionally | b. the private sector |
| 3. The change of | c. economic conditions |
| 4. of Cubans demonstrated against dire | d. his country's economy |
| 5. People also protested about a | e. in policy |
| 6. introduce new initiatives to revitalise | f. of foreign currency |
| 7. severely impacted this | g. food and medicine |
| 8. depleted the government's reserves | h. lack of food |
| 9. difficult for the country to import | i. sector |
| 10. many entrepreneurs from | j. heart from the government |

GAP FILL

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

The government in Cuba is legalising the (1) _____ of small and medium-sized businesses. This represents a (2) _____ shift in policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have traditionally been the (3) _____ in Cuba, following the revolution in 1959 that brought Fidel Castro to power. He nationalised Cuba's industries to put them into state (4) _____. The new policy allows entrepreneurs to operate businesses that have up to 100 employees. The change of (5) _____ from the government came after a month of (6) _____ protests. Thousands of Cubans demonstrated against (7) _____ economic conditions. People also protested about a lack of food and the (8) _____ of the coronavirus pandemic.

monumental
hands
street
norm
handling
ownership
dire
heart

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said he would introduce new (9) _____ to revitalise his country's economy. Cuba (10) _____ on tourism for much of its foreign currency reserves. Global restrictions on travel during the pandemic have (11) _____ impacted this sector. Another (12) _____ industry in Cuba is the production of sugar. Bad weather has resulted in poor harvests and reduced revenues. These events have (13) _____ the government's reserves of foreign currency, which means it has become difficult for the country to (14) _____ food and medicine. Cuba expert O'Neill Diaz said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have spent years (15) _____, working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's economic well-(16) _____.

key
import
relies
being
severely
initiatives
striving
depleted

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) The government in Cuba is legalising the ownership of small and _____
 - a. medium-sizes businesses
 - b. medium-sizes business
 - c. medium-sized businesses
 - d. medium-sized business is
- 2) This represents a monumental _____
 - a. shaft in policy
 - b. shifter policy
 - c. shift in policy
 - d. sift on policy
- 3) He nationalised Cuba's industries to put them _____
 - a. unto state hands
 - b. in to state hands
 - c. in two state hands
 - d. into state hands
- 4) Thousands of Cubans demonstrated against _____
 - a. dire economic conditions
 - b. dirt economic conditions
 - c. drier economic conditions
 - d. dour economic conditions
- 5) People also protested about a lack of food and the _____ coronavirus
 - a. handling off the
 - b. handling on the
 - c. handling oft the
 - d. handling of the
- 6) introduce new initiatives to _____ economy
 - a. revitalise his country's
 - b. rev italicise his country's
 - c. rivet allies his country's
 - d. leave italicise his country's
- 7) Global restrictions on travel during the pandemic have severely _____
 - a. impacted this sector
 - b. compacted this sector
 - c. in pact it this sector
 - d. imp acted this sector
- 8) in Cuba is the production of sugar. Bad weather has resulted _____
 - a. impure harvests
 - b. in pour harvests
 - c. in poor harvests
 - d. in pore harvests
- 9) Diaz said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have _____
 - a. spent years starving
 - b. spent years striven
 - c. spent years striving
 - d. spent years staving
- 10) working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's _____
 - a. economic nice-being
 - b. economics well-being
 - c. economics nice-being
 - d. economic well-being

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

The government in Cuba is legalising (1) _____ small and medium-sized businesses. This represents a (2) _____ policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have traditionally been (3) _____ Cuba, following the revolution in 1959 that brought Fidel Castro to power. He nationalised Cuba's industries to put them (4) _____. The new policy allows entrepreneurs to operate businesses that have up to 100 employees. The (5) _____ from the government came after a month of street protests. Thousands of Cubans demonstrated against dire economic conditions. People also protested about a (6) _____ and the handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said he would introduce (7) _____ revitalise his country's economy. Cuba relies on tourism for much of its foreign currency reserves. Global restrictions on travel during the pandemic (8) _____ this sector. Another key industry in Cuba is the production of sugar. Bad weather has resulted (9) _____ and reduced revenues. These events have depleted the government's reserves of foreign currency, (10) _____ has become difficult for the country to import food and medicine. Cuba expert O'Neill Diaz said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have (11) _____, working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. What kinds of businesses can people now start in Cuba?
2. When was there a revolution in Cuba?
3. What did Fidel Castro do to Cuba's industries?
4. What did Cuba's government have a change of?
5. What did people protest about besides the handling of coronavirus?
6. What new things did Cuba's president say he would introduce?
7. What does Cuba rely on for foreign currency reserves?
8. What did bad weather result in besides reduced revenues?
9. What is Cuba finding it difficult to import?
10. What have entrepreneurs spent years contributing to?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) What kinds of businesses can people now start in Cuba?
 - a) start-ups
 - b) online companies
 - c) small and medium-sized businesses
 - d) profit-making companies
- 2) When was there a revolution in Cuba?
 - a) 1959
 - b) 1958
 - c) 1969
 - d) 1968
- 3) What did Fidel Castro do to Cuba's industries?
 - a) he thanked them
 - b) he rebuilt them
 - c) he modernised them
 - d) he nationalised them
- 4) What did Cuba's government have a change of?
 - a) leadership
 - b) heart
 - c) mind
 - d) politics
- 5) What did people protest about besides the handling of coronavirus?
 - a) a lack of jobs
 - b) the climate crisis
 - c) a lack of food
 - d) gas prices
- 6) What new things did Cuba's president say he would introduce?
 - a) schools
 - b) initiatives
 - c) wifi access points
 - d) climate measures
- 7) What does Cuba rely on for foreign currency reserves?
 - a) dollars
 - b) banks
 - c) light manufacturing
 - d) tourism and sugar
- 8) What did bad weather result in besides reduced revenues?
 - a) floods
 - b) poor harvests
 - c) drought
 - d) disease
- 9) What is Cuba finding it difficult to import?
 - a) food and medicine
 - b) pesticides and chocolate
 - c) car parts
 - d) computers
- 10) What have entrepreneurs spent years contributing to?
 - a) the debate
 - b) GDP
 - c) an ideas forum
 - d) Cuba's economic well-being

ROLE PLAY

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

Role A – Increasing Taxes

You think increasing taxes is the worthiest thing to protest about. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least worthy of these (and why): corruption, nuclear war or rising prices.

Role B – Corruption

You think corruption is the worthiest thing to protest about. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least worthy of these (and why): increasing taxes, nuclear war or rising prices.

Role C – Nuclear War

You think nuclear war is the worthiest thing to protest about. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least worthy of these (and why): corruption, increasing taxes or rising prices.

Role D – Rising Prices

You think rising prices is the worthiest thing to protest about. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least worthy of these (and why): corruption, nuclear war or increasing taxes.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

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

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Cuba | business |
|-------------|-----------------|

- 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">• ownership• shift• norm• 100• street• handling | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• introduce• tourism• key• bad• difficult• well |
|--|--|

CUBA SURVEY

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

CUBA DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'Cuba'?
3. What do you know about Cuba?
4. Would you like to own a business?
5. What do you think of state-owned companies?
6. What do you think of communism?
7. Should any industries be nationalised?
8. How good an entrepreneur would you be?
9. What things would make you protest in the streets?
10. How has your government handled the pandemic?

Cuba allows people to own private businesses – 10th August, 2021
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CUBA 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 think of when you hear the word 'business'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Would you like to visit Cuba?
15. What advice do you have for Cuba's president?
16. What can revitalise economies?
17. What do you know about Cuba's tourism industry?
18. What are your country's key industries?
19. Where do you think Cuba will be in 10 years from now?
20. What questions would you like to ask Cuba's leader?

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

The government in Cuba is legalising the ownership of small and medium-sized businesses. This represents a (1) _____ shift in policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have traditionally been the (2) _____ in Cuba, following the revolution in 1959 that brought Fidel Castro to power. He nationalised Cuba's industries to put them into state (3) _____. The new policy allows entrepreneurs to operate businesses that have up to 100 employees. The change of (4) _____ from the government came after a month of (5) _____ protests. Thousands of Cubans demonstrated against dire economic conditions. People also protested about a (6) _____ of food and the handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said he would introduce new (7) _____ to revitalise his country's economy. Cuba relies (8) _____ tourism for much of its foreign currency reserves. Global restrictions on travel during the pandemic have (9) _____ impacted this sector. Another key industry in Cuba is the production of sugar. Bad weather has resulted (10) _____ poor harvests and reduced revenues. These events have depleted the government's reserves of foreign currency, which means it has become difficult for the country to import food and medicine. Cuba (11) _____ O'Neill Diaz said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have spent years striving, working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's economic (12) _____-being.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) monumental | (b) memento | (c) momentary | (d) mental |
| 2. | (a) average | (b) median | (c) norm | (d) mode |
| 3. | (a) hood | (b) coffer | (c) hands | (d) run |
| 4. | (a) brain | (b) lungs | (c) liver | (d) heart |
| 5. | (a) street | (b) avenue | (c) road | (d) boulevard |
| 6. | (a) slack | (b) lack | (c) flack | (d) clack |
| 7. | (a) invitations | (b) intimates | (c) initiates | (d) initiatives |
| 8. | (a) of | (b) on | (c) at | (d) to |
| 9. | (a) severe | (b) sever | (c) severely | (d) several |
| 10. | (a) on | (b) in | (c) at | (d) to |
| 11. | (a) expect | (b) expat | (c) extant | (d) expert |
| 12. | (a) nice | (b) well | (c) good | (d) bad |

SPELLING

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

Paragraph 1

1. This represents a nmntaomuel shift
2. policy from the miumncsot-ruled country
3. following the vonoleritu in 1959
4. He ietalndaions Cuba's industries
5. allows etrpureeensnr to operate businesses
6. eird economic conditions

Paragraph 2

7. he would introduce new nvitsiiaiet
8. rvlsetiiae his country's economy
9. elresyev impacted this sector
10. poor ahrtvses and reduced revenues
11. eplteded the government's reserves
12. spent years riivtsgn

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () expert O'Neill Diaz said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have spent
- () the pandemic have severely impacted this sector. Another key industry in Cuba is the production of
- (**1**) The government in Cuba is legalising the ownership of small and medium-sized businesses. This represents a
- () sugar. Bad weather has resulted in poor harvests and reduced revenues. These events have depleted the government's reserves of foreign
- () after a month of street protests. Thousands of Cubans demonstrated against dire economic
- () currency, which means it has become difficult for the country to import food and medicine. Cuba
- () Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said he would introduce new initiatives to revitalise his country's
- () economy. Cuba relies on tourism for much of its foreign currency reserves. Global restrictions on travel during
- () conditions. People also protested about a lack of food and the handling of the coronavirus pandemic.
- () monumental shift in policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have
- () power. He nationalised Cuba's industries to put them into state hands. The new policy allows entrepreneurs to operate
- () businesses that have up to 100 employees. The change of heart from the government came
- () traditionally been the norm in Cuba, following the revolution in 1959 that brought Fidel Castro to
- () years striving, working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's economic well-being.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. represents shift in monumental This policy . a
2. to that The revolution power . brought 1959 Castro
3. new to operate businesses . allows policy The entrepreneurs
4. change The the from heart government . of
5. food . also protested about lack People of a
6. his country's initiatives to revitalise economy . new Introduce
7. Global on travel the restrictions pandemic . during
8. harvests . weather Bad in resulted has poor
9. events reserves . depleted the have government's These
10. economic to Trying well-being . Cuba's to contribute

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

The government in Cuba is legalising the ownership [*at / of*] small and medium-sized businesses. This represents a monumental shift [*in / on*] policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have traditionally been the [*normal / norm*] in Cuba, following the revolution in 1959 that brought Fidel Castro [*to / of*] power. He nationalised Cuba's industries to put them into state [*hands / feet*]. The new policy [*allowing / allows*] entrepreneurs to operate businesses that have up to 100 employees. The change of [*brain / heart*] from the government came after a month of street protests. Thousands of Cubans demonstrated against [*dire / dirt*] economic conditions. People also protested about a [*slack / lack*] of food and the [*handling / heading*] of the coronavirus pandemic.

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said he would introduce [*newly / new*] initiatives to revitalise his country's economy. Cuba [*relies / relics*] on tourism for much of its foreign currency [*reverses / reserves*]. Global restrictions on travel during the pandemic have [*severely / severed*] impacted this sector. Another key industry in Cuba is the production [*at / of*] sugar. Bad weather has resulted in poor harvests and reduced revenues. These events have [*depleted / completed*] the government's reserves of foreign currency, which [*means / meaning*] it has become difficult for the country to import food and medicine. Cuba [*expert / extent*] O'Neill Diaz said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have spent years [*starving / striving*], working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's economic [*well-being / nice-being*].

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

Th_ g_v_rnm_nt _n C_b_ _s l_g_l_s_ng th_ _wn_rsh_p
_f sm_ll _nd m_d__m-s_z_d b_s_n_ss_s. Th_s r_pr_s_nts
_ m_n_m_nt_l sh_ft _n p_l_cy fr_m th_ c_mm_n_st-
r_l_d c__ntry. St_t_-wn_d c_mp_n__s h_v_
tr_d_t__n_lly b__n th_ n_rm _n C_b_, f_ll_w_ng th_
r_v_l_t__n _n 1959 th_t br__ght F_d_l C_str_ t_
p_w_r. H_ n_t__n_l_s_d C_b_'s _nd_str__s t_ p_t th_m
nt st_t_ h_nds. Th_ n_w p_l_cy _ll_ws _ntr_pr_n__rs
t_ _p_r_t_ b_s_n_ss_s th_t h_v_ _p t_ 100 _mpl_y__s.
Th_ ch_ng_ _f h__rt fr_m th_ g_v_rnm_nt c_m_ _ft_r
_ m_nth _f str__t pr_t_sts. Th__s_nds _f C_b_ns
d_m_nstr_t_d _g__nst d_r_ _c_n_m_c c_nd_t__ns. P__pl_
ls pr_t_st_d _b__t _ l_ck _f f__d _nd th_ h_ndl_ng
f th c_r_n_v_r_s p_nd_m_c.

C_b_n Pr_s_d_nt M_g__l D__z-C_n_l s__d h_ w__ld
_ntr_d_c_ n_w _n_t__t_v_s t_ r_v_t_l_s_ h_s c__ntry's
_c_n_my. C_b_ r_l__s _n t__rsm f_r m_ch _f _ts
f_r__gn c_rr_ncy r_s_rv_s. Gl_b_l r_str_ct__ns _n tr_v_l
d_r_ng th_ p_nd_m_c h_v_ s_v_r_ly _mp_ct_d th_s
s_ct_r. _n_th_r k_y _nd_stry _n C_b_ _s th_
pr_d_ct__n _f s_g_r. B_d w__th_r h_s r_s_lt_d _n p__r
h_rv_sts _nd r_d_c_d r_v_n__s. Th_s_ _v_nts h_v_
d_pl_t_d th_ g_v_rnm_nt's r_s_rv_s _f f_r__gn c_rr_ncy,
wh_ch m__ns _t h_s b_c_m_ d_ff_c_lt f_r th_ c__ntry
t_ _mp_rt f__d _nd m_d_c_n_. C_b_ _xp_rt _'N__ll
D__z s__d "m_ny _ntr_pr_n__rs fr_m th_ pr_v_t_ s_ct_r
h_v_ sp_nt y__rs str_v_ng, w_rk_ng _nd try_ng t_
c_ntr_b_t_" t_ C_b_'s _c_n_m_c w_ll-b__ng.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

the government in cuba is legalising the ownership of small and mediumsized businesses this represents a monumental shift in policy from the communistruled country stateowned companies have traditionally been the norm in cuba following the revolution in 1959 that brought fidel castro to power he nationalised cubas industries to put them into state hands the new policy allows entrepreneurs to operate businesses that have up to 100 employees the change of heart from the government came after a month of street protests thousands of cubans demonstrated against dire economic conditions people also protested about a lack of food and the handling of the coronavirus pandemic

cuban president miguel diazcanel said he would introduce new initiatives to revitalise his countrys economy cuba relies on tourism for much of its foreign currency reserves global restrictions on travel during the pandemic have severely impacted this sector another key industry in cuba is the production of sugar bad weather has resulted in poor harvests and reduced revenues these events have depleted the governments reserves of foreign currency which means it has become difficult for the country to import food and medicine cuba expert oneill diaz said many entrepreneurs from the private sector have spent years striving working and trying to contribute to cubas economic wellbeing

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

The government in Cuba is legalising the ownership of small and medium-sized businesses. This represents a monumental shift in policy from the communist-ruled country. State-owned companies have traditionally been the norm in Cuba, following the revolution in 1959 that brought Fidel Castro to power. He nationalised Cuba's industries to put them into state hands. The new policy allows entrepreneurs to operate businesses that have up to 100 employees. The change of heart from the government came after a month of street protests. Thousands of Cubans demonstrated against dire economic conditions. People also protested about a lack of food and the handling of the coronavirus pandemic. Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said he would introduce new initiatives to revitalise his country's economy. Cuba relies on tourism for much of its foreign currency reserves. Global restrictions on travel during the pandemic have severely impacted this sector. Another key industry in Cuba is the production of sugar. Bad weather has resulted in poor harvests and reduced revenues. These events have depleted the government's reserves of foreign currency, which means it has become difficult for the country to import food and medicine. Cuba expert O'Neill Diaz said "many entrepreneurs from the private sector have spent years striving, working and trying to contribute" to Cuba's economic well-being.

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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

4. STATE-RUN: Write a magazine article about making many industries state-owned. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 Cuba. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on Cuba. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. a 3. g 4. b 5. e 6. d 7. f
8. k 9. l 10. n 11. i 12. j 13. m 14. h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 T 3 T 4 T 5 F 6 F 7 T 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. e | 2. j | 3. f | 4. h | 5. b |
| 6. a | 7. i | 8. d | 9. g | 10. c |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Small and medium-sized businesses
- 1959
- He nationalised them
- Heart
- A lack of food
- Initiatives
- Tourism and sugar
- Poor harvests
- Food and medicine
- Cuba's economic well-being

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- This represents a monumental shift in policy.
- The 1959 revolution that brought Castro to power.
- The new policy allows entrepreneurs to operate businesses.
- The change of heart from the government.
- People also protested about a lack of food.
- Introduce new initiatives to revitalise his country's economy.
- Global restrictions on travel during the pandemic.
- Bad weather has resulted in poor harvests.
- These events have depleted the government's reserves.
- Trying to contribute to Cuba's economic well-being.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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