
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Lingohack

17th February



Today's Headlines:

US-Cuba flights return

Australia drug bust

Male cosmetic surgery surge

Transcript:

The United States and Cuba have signed a deal **restoring** commercial flights between the countries for the first time in more than 50 years. The agreement in Havana means there could be more than 100 flights a day within months. But it is still at the moment technically illegal for American citizens to visit Cuba as tourists.

Police in Australia say they've made one of the biggest drug busts in the country's history. Officers **seized** around \$1bn worth of methamphetamine hidden inside push-up bras in a shipping container from Hong Kong.

A record number of people had cosmetic surgery in the UK last year – more than 50,000 people **went under the knife**. This, according to data released by the British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons. It also shows that for the first time the number of men opting for procedures went up by a greater percentage than the number of women.

Words and phrases and definitions:

restoring

bringing back as it was before

seized

took away forcibly (usually describes police action)

went under the knife

had surgery, was operated on by a doctor

Watch the video online: <http://bbc.in/218Br2s>

Exercise:

Use one of the words or phrases from Lingohack to complete each of these sentences. Note that you may have to change the form of a word or phrase to complete the sentence correctly.

restoring / seized / went under the knife

1. Customs officers at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris have _____ 115 live scorpions which were hidden in two separate shipments.
2. Engineers worked speedily to _____ electricity supplies to the local hospital which has been without power since the storm.
3. Mandy couldn't tolerate any sign of aging. She didn't hesitate _____ to get rid of her wrinkles.

Answers:

1. Customs officers at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris have **seized** 115 live scorpions which were hidden in two separate shipments.
2. Engineers worked speedily to **restore** electricity supplies to the local hospital which has been without power since the storm.
3. Mandy couldn't tolerate any sign of aging. She didn't hesitate **going under the knife** to get rid of her wrinkles.