

## B2+/C1 Reading comprehension questions

### UK trial modified cameras to end noisy vehicles

A new type of traffic camera that detects noisy vehicles has been trialled in the UK. The “noise cameras” catch illegally-loud sounds coming from modified exhausts or supercars and motorbikes revving their engines. The acoustic cameras have microphones specially fitted and capture the numberplate and sound level of the vehicle. If the sound detected exceeds the legal limit of 74 decibels, then a fine is automatically sent to the driver.

Alongside the trial was a survey commissioned by the RAC (Royal Automobile Club) to gather drivers' thoughts on the cameras. Of those polled, almost 60% were in favour of them, but around 20% were against the new detection cameras, while the last 20% were undecided. Those who fail to comply with the legal noise limit face a £50 fine, which around 40% of drivers felt was in proportion to the offence committed. Others felt that motorists should face a steeper fine and a temporary ban if they breach the rules.

The survey revealed that around a third of the UK regularly hear unnecessarily loud vehicle noises. According to the government up to £10 billion a year is lost in productivity at work due to disturbed sleep and other resulting health problems. The RAC said they want the trialled cameras in the worst areas affected, and “the sooner effective camera enforcement can be put in place the better”.

1. Has the UK fully adopted noise cameras?
2. What kinds of sounds do noise cameras catch?
3. What sound level must vehicles not pass?
4. What did the RAC do?
5. How did the majority of those asked feel about the cameras?
6. What do drivers get if they exceed the noise limit?
7. Some people felt the punishment should be more what?
8. What do companies lose because of the problem?
9. What do people lose because of noisy vehicles?
10. What do the RAC want to see from the trial?

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#### Answers

1. Not yet, they are still being trialled.
2. Those from exhausts and engines.
3. The legal 74 decibel limit.
4. Surveyed drivers.
5. They approved of the cameras.
6. A £50 fine.
7. Severe, including a temporary ban.
8. Productivity.
9. Good sleep.
10. Effective sound camera enforcement.

Full lesson with interactive and listening exercises at:

<https://www.everybitenglish.com/lesson-20230821-higher-c1-noise-cameras>