

Activity 3:

Homework

Listen to *Democracy Now: Daily Show*, December 18, 2014

"Cut Loose the Shackles of the Past": U.S. and Cuba Announce a New Dawn in Diplomatic Relations.

http://www.democracynow.org/2014/12/18/cut_loose_the_shackles_of_the.%20 (58:56 start 0-4:00 then 11:30-24:00; 47-58) Click on *Watch Full Show*. Respond to the following questions and prepare for a class discussion of the Democracy Now analysis of President Obama's announcement.

1. What was President Obama's stunning announcement?

2. What role did Pope Francis play in this announcement?

3. What was Raul Castro's message to the Cuban people? Why is the opening of relations a victory for Castro?

4. What was the hip-hop case?

5. Who are Alan Gross and the Cuban 5? How do they fit into the Cuba-US deal?

6. What steps will President Obama take to facilitate new relations with Cuba.

7. How will this new relationship help Cuba?

8. How will this new relationship help the United States

9. Why does Florida Senator Marco Rubio believe that this is another concession to a tyranny by the Obama administration.	
10. Why did Senator Rubio say the US conceded? Why does he think this will not help the Cuban people?	
11. Why can't President Obama lift the embargo?	
12. Why did US- Cuban relations change at this point in time? What did President Obama gain? Castro? The Pope?	