Daily Life - Mechanic (C0132)

A: Howdy! Nice car! What seems to be the problem?

B: I don't know! This stupid old car started spewing white smoke and it just died on me. Luckily, I managed to start it up and drive it here. What do you think it is?

A: Not sure yet. How about you pop the hood and we can take a look. Hmmm, it doesn't look good.

B: What do you mean? My daddy gave me this car for my birthday last month. It's brand new!

A: Well missy, the white smoke that you saw is steam from the radiator. You overheated your engine so now the pistons are busted and so is your transmission. You should have called us and we could have towed you over here when your car died.

B: Ugh... So how long is this going to take? An hour?

A: I'm afraid a bit more than that. We need to order the spare parts, take apart your electrical system, fuel pump and engine and then put it back together again. You are going to have to leave it here for at least two weeks.

B: What! How am I supposed to get to school or go shopping? This is not happening!

Key Vocabulary

spew	*principle verb, present progressive*	to flow out of something in a fast and forceful way
die on	*principle verb, past simple*	to stop working or running while in use by someone
busted	*Adjective*	broken
take apart	*principle verb, present simple*	to remove all the pieces

how about	*phrase*	introduces request or suggestion

Supplementary Vocabulary

gearbox	*common noun, singular*	the metal casing enclosing a set of gears in a motor vehicle
muffler	*common noun, singular*	a tubular acoustic device inserted in the exhaust system that is designed to reduce noise
cruise control	*common noun, singular*	control mechanism for keeping an automobile at a set speed
overtake	*principle verb, present simple*	To pass after catching up with another vehcile on the road
boot	*common noun, singular*	a device that is locked on the wheel of a car by the police to prevent it from moving