# Learn English on your Terms

## **Daily Life - Car Trouble** (C0221)

- A: Car trouble center. How may I help you?
- B: My car won't start! Stupid old car!
- A: Hold on, before you kick your car let's go through some possible problems.
- B: Fine.
- A: Ok, first of all, can you turn the key in the ignition?
- B: Yeah! I am here with my friend and he thinks it may be the spark plug or the starter motor.
- A: Those are possible problems, but tell me, when you turn the key, do you hear the starter motor crank?
- B: Yeah, it sounds like it usually does when I start the car, but nothing else happens. The engine won't start. Should I maybe press the accelerator?
- A: No. If you step on the accelerator pedal you can flood the carburetor and your car will never start.



So what do you think it is? B:

I know this may seem like a silly question, but does your car have gasoline?

Umm. yeah! Right! I got the car started! Thanks B: for your help! I told you to fill the tank!

### **Key Vocabulary**

go through	P	look at (something) in a careful way
ignition	N	a device to start up the car
spark plug	P	electrical device that ig- nites the gas by electric
starter motor	P	an electric motor for starting an engine
crank	V	to start (an engine, motor, etc.)
engine	N	the device which helps cars getting running



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accelerator N a pedal that controls

the throttle valve

carburetor N mixes air with gasoline

vapor prior to explosion

## **Supplementary Vocabulary**

to stall V when a car's engine will

not start

brakes N the mechanism which

stops the car

gas tank N the tank which carries

the car's gasoline

seat belt N the strap which pro-

tects from an accident

tow truck N a service which repairs

or retrieves a broken car