

**Answers:** Find expressions which mean:

allow somebody to do what they like	gives me a pretty free rein
a fairly long time asking incessantly	has taken six months of pestering
the topic will cause many readers to harshly criticise the newspaper	this subject will unleash a tsunami of bile and an ash cloud of vitriolic reader comments
government which doesn't dare to do anything	weak, craven political class
complete lack of any effective moral fibre	all the bravery of Italians driving tanks in reverse
the hottest period of the year	dog days
two images of hell, caused by traffic	car-choked Hades congested hell-holes
increase money allocated to something	ramp up spending
provide something that is hyperbolically strange	lay on a free submarine shuttle with a champagne bar on the Thames
We are more or less content	We're broadly happy
an image of people altering behaviour to become ludicrously authoritarian	why, the moment we get into our cars, do we all turn into screaming, pinko commies?
turned into smaller, rather dirty dwellings	carved up into grimy bedsits
the almost impossible task of saving small parcels of land from road development	But trying to reclaim these tiny scraps from the all-conquering car is a task worthy of Sisyphus.
two expressions: it would be a good idea to have a sensible exchange of views	It seems reasonable then, that we should at least have a grown-up discussion about what might be done.  Anyway, all I'm calling for here is a grown up debate about what we can do.
unreasonable argumentative style	FULL CAPS ON
expecting people who try [sth] to be punished	calling for the heads of anyone who dares
travel	tool around
image: a place or idea we are prepared to defend whatever the price	Road charging is the hill we're prepared to die on.
pave (as for a road)	tarmac over
the plan has got nowhere	you're back to square one.
people think of their own immediate financial gain without considering the future	plenty of people cheer as they price their own children off the housing ladder
image of all the people who advocate motor transport	from the RAC to industry shills to the nation's pet oaf
incident that makes someone look stupid	pratfall
unreasonable people who wish to drive around at all costs	shouty petrolheads
that is how the situation is	But that really is the size of it.
idea that politicians prefer to take the easy way out, rather than face up to real problems	Why grapple with difficult, long-term issues when you can do soft-soap TV interviews or pal around with Clarkson in the Cotswolds?
thank you for your attention	If you've read this far, and your caps lock is still off, I thank you.