

Strike (Part 2)

Last week on this web site you were introduced to different forms of strike action according to duration, extension and articulation. The focus of this week's lesson is key vocabulary relative to strike and some of the most common phrases containing the noun *strike* and the verb *to strike* in its various forms.

A Match the given words with their definitions.

1. Hunger strike
 2. Sympathy strike
 3. Striker
 4. Union
 5. Scab
 6. Collective bargaining
 7. Strikebound
 8. Strikebreaker
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- a) an organisation that represents the people who work in a particular industry, protects their rights, and discusses their pay and working conditions with the employer
 - b) a refusal to eat in order to make a protest
 - c) closed and made inoperative by a strike
 - d) a person who is involved in a strike
 - e) a person who continues working while other people in the organisation are on strike (informal, insulting)
 - f) the system in which employees talk as a group with their employers to try to agree on matters such as pay and working conditions
 - g) a strike in which the strikers attempt to support another group of workers on strike
 - h) a person who continues working during a strike or who takes the job of a worker who is involved in a strike

Key: 1b, 2g, 3d, 4a, 5e, 6f, 7c, 8h

B Underline in each sentence the verb that completes the sentence correctly.

1. The government will ask the court to *ban/disqualify* the strike which is due to take place next Monday.
2. The army was used to help *bring/break* the strike.
3. We voted to *show/stage* a series of one-day strikes.
4. Public employees who *go/put* on strike will automatically lose their jobs.
5. Trade unions will *phone/call* for a nationwide strike if their pay demands aren't met.
6. Construction workers will *come/arrive* out on strike in support of the demand for a living wage of £8 per day.
7. Only those members of unions that have balloted for action can safely *take/play* part in the strike action.
8. The budget airline has urged the European Commission to step in to *prepare/prevent* a series of strikes by airport workers.

Key: 1. *ban*, 2. *break*, 3. *stage*, 4. *go*, 5. *call*, 6. *come*, 7. *take*, 8. *prevent*

B Complete the following sentences with either the noun *strike* or the verb *to strike*.

1. Workers have the right _____ and join a trade union.
2. Sometimes when union members are on _____, they receive no pay from the business owner.
3. As the _____ entered its second day, strikers announced they would not cooperate with the Management Board.
4. Our drivers are not allowed _____ under their current contract.
5. Transport workers staged a _____ in protest at the government's austerity package.
6. Principals are threatening _____ over cuts to the education budget.
7. He has been accused of being a scab during a _____ in the past, but he has refused to comment.
8. The suppression of the strike led to sympathy _____ in other industries.

Key: 1. to strike, 2. strike, 3. strike, 4. to strike, 5. strike, 6. to strike, 7. strike, 8. strike, 9. strike