

# What is a strike?



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- A strike is when a group of workers agree to stop working. They do this when they want to protest against something they think is unfair where they work.
- Strikes sometimes happen so that politicians have to listen more carefully to the workers.

# Strikers demonstration



# Why do workers go on strike?

Workers go on strike for different reasons:

- to get improvements where they work
- for more money
- for shorter working days
- to stop their wages going down
- because they think their company has been unfair





# What are trade unions?

- A trade union is an association of workers that wants to make things better in their workplace.
- They speak for their<sup>A</sup> members over all important parts of their job, like wages and working hours.
- By joining together, a trade union can often bargain for more than individuals



# What are pickets?

- Pickets are workers who are on strike that stand at the entrance to their workplace. The purpose of picketing is:
  - to stop or persuade workers not to go to work
  - to tell the public about the strike
  - to persuade workers to take their union's side



# Workers picketing outside a mine





# Famous strikes

- **The General Strike, 1926** This lasted for nine days during which nearly all of the UK stopped running.
- It was held to support coal miners.
- **The Miners' Strike, 1984**
- This was a long and bitter strike held because workers were to lose jobs in the coal industry.



# Soup kitchen for hungry strikers' families





**COAL  
FOR  
BRITAIN  
NOT DOLE  
FOR MINERS**

THE  
WOMEN CONTINUE FIGHTING

USE US  
ROL US  
RETIRE



People protest with placards,  
badges and banners



EDINBURGH TRADES COUNCIL

MINERS  
SUPPORT  
COMMITTEE



NO

VICTIMISATION

5.11.15



COAL  
NOT  
DOLE

Please  
don't forget  
the  
MINERS' KIDS

Send  
Your  
Contributions  
to :-



For striking with the  
NUM

COAL  
NOT  
DOLE

MINERS SUPPORT GROUP  
MEETS EVERY FRIDAY 8:00PM. HE



# What makes you want to protest?

- Make a placard to tell other people about an issue that is important to you.