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Level 6

Catalonia workers strike for independence

5th October, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

A general strike in Spain's region of Catalonia on Tuesday brought large parts of Barcelona and other cities to a standstill. Thousands of Catalans rallied and blocked roads to protest over Spanish police violence during Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend in a crackdown against voters and referendum staff. The Spanish government declared that the referendum was illegal and ordered the police to break it up. Spain's King Felipe VI has condemned the organizers of the referendum. In a televised address to the nation, he said they had put themselves "outside the law". He said the situation in Catalonia was "extremely serious" and called for national unity.

The mayor of Barcelona told reporters that the Catalan people deserved to have a vote on independence. She said: "What we need is a democratic response. And we need a political solution. And we need an inclusive solution that listens to the cries of millions of people." She also called for the resignation of Spain's prime minister. More unrest could be on the cards. Any declaration of independence by the Catalans could plunge Spain into a further constitutional crisis and risk the break-up of the country. Other regions could follow Catalonia's example and have their own referendum. Spain's president has called on the international community to help mediate between the two sides.

Sources: <https://www.cnbc.com/2017/10/03/catalonia-goes-on-strike-as-calls-for-declaration-of-independence-grow.html>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-41479048>
<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/10/03/europe/catalonia-general-strike-protests-barcelona/index.html>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-41493014>

WARM-UPS

1. CATALONIAN INDEPENDENCE: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Catalonian independence. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

general strike / protest / violence / crackdown / referendum / nation / serious / unity
mayor / independence / democratic / solution / resignation / crisis / community

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. NATIONAL UNITY: Students A **strongly** believe Catalonia should stay part of Spain; Students B **strongly** believe it should become independent. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. PROTESTS: What would you protest over? How would you protest? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Protest over...	Why?	How?
regional independence		
war		
tax rises		
government corruption		
nuclear power		
other _____		

5. STRIKE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "strike". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. INDEPENDENCE: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important things an independent country needs at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- a flag
- secure borders
- UN acceptance
- a strong economy
- patriotic people
- a national anthem
- a strong army
- a constitution

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Striking workers blocked many roads in Barcelona. **T / F**
- b. Over 1,000 people were injured by police in Catalonia on Sunday. **T / F**
- c. Spain's king said the referendum organizers were outside the law. **T / F**
- d. The Spanish king called for Spaniards to be united. **T / F**
- e. Barcelona's mayor said Catalans deserved to have a referendum. **T / F**
- f. Barcelona's mayor said there no democratic response is necessary. **T / F**
- g. The mayor doesn't think Spain's prime minister should resign. **T / F**
- h. Spain's president said he would mediate between the two sides. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. region | a. demonstrate |
| 2. standstill | b. reply |
| 3. protest | c. hurt |
| 4. injured | d. negotiate |
| 5. address | e. area |
| 6. deserved | f. disorder |
| 7. response | g. emergency |
| 8. unrest | h. halt |
| 9. crisis | i. had a right |
| 10. mediate | j. speech |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. A general | a. the two sides |
| 2. Thousands of Catalans rallied and | b. cards |
| 3. a crackdown | c. serious |
| 4. a televised address | d. Catalonia's example |
| 5. the situation in Catalonia was extremely | e. to have a vote |
| 6. Catalan people deserved | f. blocked roads |
| 7. we need a political | g. strike |
| 8. More unrest could be on the | h. to the nation |
| 9. Other regions could follow | i. solution |
| 10. help mediate between | j. against voters |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

A general strike in Spain's (1) _____ of Catalonia on Tuesday brought large parts of Barcelona and other cities to a standstill. Thousands of Catalans rallied and (2) _____ roads to protest over Spanish police violence during Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend in a (3) _____ against voters and referendum staff. The Spanish government declared that the referendum was illegal and (4) _____ the police to break it up. Spain's King Felipe VI has (5) _____ the organizers of the referendum. In a (6) _____ address to the nation, he said they had put themselves "outside the law". He said the (7) _____ in Catalonia was "extremely serious" and called for national (8) _____.

televised
blocked
ordered
unity
region
situation
crackdown
condemned

The mayor of Barcelona told reporters that the Catalan people (9) _____ to have a vote on independence. She said: "What we need is a democratic (10) _____. And we need a political solution. And we need an (11) _____ solution that listens to the cries of millions of people." She also called for the (12) _____ of Spain's prime minister. More unrest could be on the (13) _____. Any declaration of independence by the Catalans could (14) _____ Spain into a further constitutional crisis and risk the break-up of the country. Other regions could (15) _____ Catalonia's example and have their own referendum. Spain's president has called on the international community to help mediate (16) _____ the two sides.

response
plunge
resignation
between
deserved
follow
inclusive
cards

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

- 1) brought large parts of Barcelona and other cities _____
 - a. to a standard still
 - b. to a standing still
 - c. to a stood still
 - d. to a standstill
- 2) Thousands of Catalans rallied and blocked roads to protest over Spanish _____
 - a. police violent
 - b. police violence
 - c. police violently
 - d. police violation
- 3) Nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend in a _____ voters
 - a. cracked down against
 - b. cracker down against
 - c. cracks down against
 - d. crackdown against
- 4) The Spanish government declared that the referendum _____
 - a. was illegally
 - b. was illegal
 - c. was ill eagle
 - d. was ill eager
- 5) He said the situation in Catalonia was "extremely serious" and called for _____
 - a. national disunity
 - b. national united
 - c. national unity
 - d. national unit tea
- 6) She said: "What we need is a democratic response. And we need a _____
 - a. politically solution
 - b. political solutions
 - c. politically solutions
 - d. political solution
- 7) And we need an inclusive solution that listens to the _____
 - a. cries of millions
 - b. cried off millions
 - c. cries of million
 - d. cried of millions
- 8) More unrest could be _____
 - a. on the barbs
 - b. on the cards
 - c. on the shards
 - d. on the yards
- 9) plunge Spain into a further constitutional crisis and risk the _____ country
 - a. break-up of a
 - b. break-up of then
 - c. break-up of that
 - d. break-up of the
- 10) Spain's president has called on the international community to _____
 - a. help mediate
 - b. help meditates
 - c. help mediated
 - d. help meditate

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

A (1) _____ Spain's region of Catalonia on Tuesday brought large parts of Barcelona and other cities (2) _____. Thousands of Catalans rallied and blocked roads to protest over Spanish police (3) _____ Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend (4) _____ against voters and referendum staff. The Spanish government declared that the referendum was illegal and ordered the police to break it up. Spain's King Felipe VI has condemned the organizers of the referendum. In a televised (5) _____ nation, he said they had put themselves "outside the law". He said the situation in Catalonia was "extremely serious" and called (6) _____.

The mayor of Barcelona told reporters that the Catalan (7) _____ have a vote on independence. She said: "What we need is a democratic response. And we need (8) _____. And we need an inclusive solution that listens (9) _____ millions of people." She also called for the resignation of Spain's prime minister. More unrest could (10) _____. Any declaration of independence by the Catalans could plunge Spain into a further constitutional crisis and (11) _____ of the country. Other regions could follow Catalonia's example and have their own referendum. Spain's president has called on the international community (12) _____ between the two sides.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

1. What kind of strike was there in Catalonia on Sunday?
2. How many Catalans blocked Barcelona's roads in a protest?
3. Who cracked down on voters and referendum staff?
4. Who condemned the organizers of the referendum?
5. What did the Spanish king call for?
6. What did Barcelona's mayor say Catalans deserved?
7. What kind of solution did Barcelona's mayor say was needed?
8. Who did Barcelona's mayor ask to resign over this situation?
9. What could a constitutional crisis risk breaking up?
10. Who did Spain's president ask to help mediate between the two sides?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

- 1) What kind of strike was there in Catalonia on Sunday?
 - a) a lightning strike
 - b) a general strike
 - c) a batting strike
 - d) a quick strike
- 2) How many Catalans blocked Barcelona's roads in a protest?
 - a) 28,985
 - b) hundreds of thousands
 - c) thousands
 - d) millions
- 3) Who cracked down on voters and referendum staff?
 - a) the European Union
 - b) the United Nations
 - c) everyday people
 - d) the Spanish police
- 4) Who condemned the organizers of the referendum?
 - a) the European Union
 - b) Spain's king
 - c) the United Nations
 - d) Barcelona's mayor
- 5) What did the Spanish king call for?
 - a) national unity
 - b) a fresh vote
 - c) sackings
 - d) Barcelona's mayor
- 6) What did Barcelona's mayor say Catalans deserved?
 - a) a vote on independence
 - b) national unity
 - c) sackings
 - d) jobs
- 7) What kind of solution did Barcelona's mayor say was needed?
 - a) a permanent solution
 - b) a liquid solution
 - c) a quick fix
 - d) a political solution
- 8) Who did Barcelona's mayor ask to resign over this situation?
 - a) the chief of police
 - b) the president
 - c) the prime minister
 - d) the co-mayor
- 9) What could a constitutional crisis risk breaking up?
 - a) Catalonia
 - b) the European Union
 - c) Europe
 - d) Spain
- 10) Who did Spain's president ask to help mediate between the two sides?
 - a) the IMF
 - b) the international community
 - c) Spain's neighbours
 - d) the European Union

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

Role A – A National Anthem

You think a national anthem is the most important thing for an independent country. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): UN acceptance, a strong economy or a strong army.

Role B – UN Acceptance

You think UN acceptance is the most important thing for an independent country. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a national anthem, a strong economy or a strong army.

Role C – A Strong Economy

You think a strong economy is the most important thing for an independent country. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): UN acceptance, a national anthem or a strong army.

Role D – A Strong Army

You think a strong army is the most important thing for an independent country. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): UN acceptance, a strong economy or a national anthem.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'vote' and 'independence'.

vote	independence
-------------	---------------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• general• roads• 900• staff• nation• unity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• mayor• response• cries• cards• follow• sides
--	---

CATALONIAN INDEPENDENCE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Catalonian independence in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

CATALONIAN INDEPENDENCE DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'independence'?
3. What do you think of what's happening in Spain?
4. What do you know of the referendum violence?
5. Should Spain's government have stayed out of the referendum?
6. Should Catalonia be able to become independent?
7. Why do you think Spain is against Catalan independence?
8. What would happen if Catalonia became independent?
9. What advice do you have for Spain's government?
10. How unified is your country?

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CATALONIAN INDEPENDENCE DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'vote'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What would happen if other Spanish regions wanted independence?
15. What advice do you have for Spain's mayor?
16. What damage could this situation do to the rest of Europe?
17. What is the likelihood of a civil war in Spain?
18. What advice do you have for Catalans?
19. How can the international community help?
20. What questions would you like to ask Catalans?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

A general strike in Spain's (1) _____ of Catalonia on Tuesday brought large parts of Barcelona and other cities to a (2) _____. Thousands of Catalans rallied and blocked roads to protest over Spanish police violence (3) _____ Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend in a crackdown against voters and referendum (4) _____. The Spanish government declared that the referendum was illegal and ordered the police to break it (5) _____. Spain's King Felipe VI has condemned the organizers of the referendum. In a televised address to the nation, he said they had put themselves "outside the law". He said the situation in Catalonia was "(6) _____ serious" and called for national unity.

The mayor of Barcelona told reporters that the Catalan people deserved to have a vote (7) _____ independence. She said: "What we need is a democratic response. And we need a political (8) _____. And we need an inclusive solution that listens to the cries of millions of people." She also called for the (9) _____ of Spain's prime minister. More unrest could be on the cards. Any declaration of independence by the Catalans could (10) _____ Spain into a further constitutional crisis and risk the break-up of the country. Other regions could (11) _____ Catalonia's example and have their own referendum. Spain's president has called on the international community to help (12) _____ between the two sides.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) regions | (b) legion | (c) region | (d) regional |
| 2. | (a) standstill | (b) still | (c) standby | (d) standard |
| 3. | (a) during | (b) while | (c) among | (d) despite |
| 4. | (a) staff | (b) stiff | (c) stuff | (d) stiffs |
| 5. | (a) in | (b) up | (c) on | (d) down |
| 6. | (a) extremes | (b) extremely | (c) extremity | (d) extremely |
| 7. | (a) in | (b) at | (c) on | (d) by |
| 8. | (a) solutions | (b) solve | (c) soluble | (d) solution |
| 9. | (a) resignation | (b) resigned | (c) resigns | (d) resign |
| 10. | (a) plague | (b) plunge | (c) plug | (d) splurge |
| 11. | (a) follows | (b) follow | (c) following | (d) followed |
| 12. | (a) mediate | (b) medium | (c) median | (d) meditate |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

Paragraph 1

1. to a iltntldass
2. in a aknwcdroc against voters
3. meocdendn the organizers
4. In a steedvile address to the nation
5. the situation in Catalonia was xemreytle serious
6. called for national niuty

Paragraph 2

7. Catalan people deerdsy to have a vote
8. What we need is a democratic opsenrse
9. we need an cievsnliu solution
10. teiolcnrada of independence
11. ngpuel Spain into a further constitutional crisis
12. help meaidet between the two sides

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () The mayor of Barcelona told reporters that the Catalan people deserved to have a vote on
- () the law". He said the situation in Catalonia was "extremely serious" and called for national unity.
- (**1**) A general strike in Spain's region of Catalonia on Tuesday brought large parts of Barcelona and other cities to a
- () own referendum. Spain's president has called on the international community to help mediate between the two sides.
- () illegal and ordered the police to break it up. Spain's King Felipe VI has condemned the organizers
- () crisis and risk the break-up of the country. Other regions could follow Catalonia's example and have their
- () of the referendum. In a televised address to the nation, he said they had put themselves "outside
- () during Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend in a crackdown
- () independence. She said: "What we need is a democratic response. And we need a political
- () standstill. Thousands of Catalans rallied and blocked roads to protest over Spanish police violence
- () against voters and referendum staff. The Spanish government declared that the referendum was
- () solution. And we need an inclusive solution that listens to the cries of millions
- () of people." She also called for the resignation of Spain's prime minister. More unrest could be
- () on the cards. Any declaration of independence by the Catalans could plunge Spain into a further constitutional

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

1. cities a of standstill Barcelona Brought and large to parts other .
2. a crackdown injured Nearly at 900 the people weekend were in .
3. illegal that the referendum was government declared Spain's .
4. put He themselves said outside they the had law .
5. in He Catalonia said was the extremely situation serious .
6. Catalan to vote The deserved a independence people have on .
7. of people A solution that listens to the cries of millions .
8. a could further plunge constitutional Spain crisis into It .
9. Other example Catalonia's follow could regions .
10. help to community international the on Called mediate .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

A general strike in Spain's *region / regional* of Catalonia on Tuesday brought large parts of Barcelona and *another / other* cities to a standstill. Thousands of Catalans rallied and blocked roads to protest *above / over* Spanish police violence *during / while* Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend *on / in* a crackdown against voters and referendum staff. The Spanish government *declaration / declared* that the referendum was illegal and ordered the police to break it *down / up*. Spain's King Felipe VI has condemned the organizers *of / for* the referendum. In a televised address to the *nation / national*, he said they had put themselves "outside the law". He said the situation in Catalonia was "*extreme / extremely* serious" and called for national unity.

The *mayor / mayoral* of Barcelona told reporters that the Catalan people deserved to have a *voting / vote* on independence. She said: "What we need is a *democratic / democratically* response. And we need a *political / politics* solution. And we need an *inclusive / included* solution that listens to the cries of millions of people." She also called for the resignation of Spain's prime minister. More *unrest / unrested* could be on the cards. Any declaration of *independently / independence* by the Catalans could plunge Spain into a *further / farther* constitutional crisis and risk the break-up of the country. Other regions could follow Catalonia's *exampled / example* and have their own referendum. Spain's president has called on the international community to help mediate *between / among* the two sides.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

_ g_n_r_l str_k_ _n Sp__n's r_g__n _f C_t_l_n__ _n
T__sd_y br__ght l_rg_ p_rts _f B_rc_l_n_ _nd _th_r
c_t__s t_ _st_ndst_ll. Th__s_nds _f C_t_l_ns r_ll__d
_nd bl_ck_d r__ds t_ pr_t_st _v_r Sp_n_sh p_l_c_
v__l_nc_ d_r_ng S_nd_y's _nd_p_nd_nc_ r_f_r_nd_m.
N__rly 900 p__pl_ w_r_ _nj_r_d _t th_ w__k_nd _n _
cr_ckd_wn _g__nst v_t_rs _nd r_f_r_nd_m st_ff. Th_
Sp_n_sh g_v_rnm_nt d_cl_r_d th_t th_ r_f_r_nd_m w_s
_ll_g_l _nd _rd_r_d th_ p_l_c_t_ br__k_t_p. Sp__n's
K_ng F_l_p_ V_ h_s c_nd_mn_d th_ _rg_n_z_rs _f th_
r_f_r_nd_m. _n _t_l_v_s_d _ddr_ss t_ th_ n_t__n, h_
s__d th_y h_d p_t th_ms_lv_s " __ts_d_ th_ l_w". H_
s__d th_ s_t_t__n _n C_t_l_n__ w_s "_xtr_m_ly
s_r___s" _nd c_ll_d f_r n_t__n_l_n_ty.

Th_ m_y_r _f B_rc_l_n_ t_ld r_p_rts th_t th_ C_t_l_n
p__pl_ d_s_rv_d t_ h_v_ _v_t_ _n _nd_p_nd_nc_. Sh_
s__d: "Wh_t w_ n__d _s _d_m_cr_t_c_r_sp_ns_. _nd
w_ n__d _ p_l_t_c_l_s_l_t__n. _nd w_ n__d _n
_ncl_s_v_ s_l_t__n th_t l_st_ns t_ th_ cr__s _f
m_ll__ns _f p__pl_." Sh_ _ls_ c_ll_d f_r th_
r_s_gn_t__n _f Sp__n's pr_m_ m_n_st_r. M_r_ _nr_st
c__ld b_ _n th_ c_rds. _ny d_cl_r_t__n _f
_nd_p_nd_nc_ by th_ C_t_l_ns c__ld pl_ng_ Sp__n _nt_
_f_rth_r c_nst_t_t__n_l cr_s_s _nd r_sk th_ br__k-p
f th c__ntry. _th_r r_g__ns c__ld f_ll_w C_t_l_n__'s
_x_mpl_ _nd h_v_ th__r _wn r_f_r_nd_m. Sp__n's
pr_s_d_nt h_s c_ll_d _n th_ _nt_rn_t__n_l c_mm_n_ty
t_ h_lp m_d__t_ b_tw__n th_ tw_ s_d_s.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

a general strike in spain's region of catalonia on tuesday brought large parts of barcelona and other cities to a standstill thousands of catalans rallied and blocked roads to protest over spanish police violence during sunday's independence referendum nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend in a crackdown against voters and referendum staff the spanish government declared that the referendum was illegal and ordered the police to break it up spain's king felipe vi has condemned the organizers of the referendum in a televised address to the nation he said they had put themselves "outside the law" he said the situation in catalonia was "extremely serious" and called for national unity

the mayor of barcelona told reporters that the catalan people deserved to have a vote on independence she said "what we need is a democratic response and we need a political solution and we need an inclusive solution that listens to the cries of millions of people" she also called for the resignation of spain's prime minister more unrest could be on the cards any declaration of independence by the catalans could plunge spain into a further constitutional crisis and risk the break-up of the country other regions could follow catalonia's example and have their own referendum spain's president has called on the international community to help mediate between the two sides

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

A general strike in Spain's region of Catalonia on Tuesday brought large parts of Barcelona and other cities to a standstill. Thousands of Catalans rallied and blocked roads to protest over Spanish police violence during Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured at the weekend in a crackdown against voters and referendum staff. The Spanish government declared that the referendum was illegal and ordered the police to break it up. Spain's King Felipe VI has condemned the organizers of the referendum. In a televised address to the nation, he said they had put themselves "outside the law". He said the situation in Catalonia was "extremely serious" and called for national unity. The mayor of Barcelona told reporters that the Catalan people deserved to have a vote on independence. She said: "What we need is a democratic response. And we need a political solution. And we need an inclusive solution that listens to the cries of millions of people." She also called for the resignation of Spain's prime minister. More unrest could be on the cards. Any declaration of independence by the Catalans could plunge Spain into a further constitutional crisis and risk the break-up of the country. Other regions could follow Catalonia's example and have their own referendum. Spain's president has called on the international community to help mediate between the two sides.

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia.html>

Write about **Catalonian independence** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CATALONIAN INDEPENDENCE: Make a poster about Catalonian independence. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. INDEPENDENCE: Write a magazine article about all regions that want independence being able to get it. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on Catalonian independence. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c T d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. region | a. area |
| 2. standstill | b. halt |
| 3. protest | c. demonstrate |
| 4. injured | d. hurt |
| 5. address | e. speech |
| 6. deserved | f. had a right |
| 7. response | g. reply |
| 8. unrest | h. disorder |
| 9. crisis | i. emergency |
| 10. mediate | j. negotiate |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A general strike
2. Thousands
3. The Spanish police
4. Spain's King (Felipe VI)
5. National unity
6. A vote on independence
7. A political solution
8. The prime minister
9. Spain
10. The international community

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. c 3. d 4. b 5. a 6. a 7. d 8. c 9. d 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)