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## Level 4

### Catalonia workers strike for independence

5th October, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia-4.html>

A strike in Catalonia brought large parts of Barcelona to a standstill. Thousands of Catalans protested over police violence during Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured. Spain's government said the referendum was illegal. It told the police to break it up. Spain's king condemned the vote. He said people had put themselves "outside the law". He said the situation was "extremely serious". He also called for national unity.

Barcelona's mayor said Catalans deserved a vote on independence. She said people needed a democratic response and a political solution, "that listens to the cries of millions of people". She asked Spain's prime minister to resign. More unrest could come. A declaration of Catalan independence could send Spain into a constitutional crisis and risk the break-up of Spain. Other regions might copy Catalonia and have their own referendum.

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>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. brought large parts of Barcelona    | a. vote            |
| 2. Catalans protested over police      | b. referendum      |
| 3. Sunday's independence               | c. unity           |
| 4. It told the police to break         | d. to a standstill |
| 5. Spain's king condemned the          | e. serious         |
| 6. people had put themselves outside   | f. it up           |
| 7. He said the situation was extremely | g. violence        |
| 8. He also called for national         | h. the law         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. a vote                           | a. Catalonia       |
| 2. people needed a democratic       | b. come            |
| 3. She asked Spain's prime minister | c. on independence |
| 4. More unrest could                | d. referendum      |
| 5. send Spain into a constitutional | e. to resign       |
| 6. risk the break-                  | f. crisis          |
| 7. Other regions might copy         | g. response        |
| 8. have their own                   | h. up of Spain     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia-4.html>

A strike in Catalonia (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of Barcelona to a standstill.

Thousands of Catalans (2) \_\_\_\_\_ police violence during

Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

Spain's government said the referendum was illegal. It told the police to

(4) \_\_\_\_\_. Spain's king condemned the vote. He said

people had put themselves "(5) \_\_\_\_\_". He said the

situation was "extremely serious". He also called (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Barcelona's mayor said Catalans (7) \_\_\_\_\_ on

independence. She said people needed a democratic response and

(8) \_\_\_\_\_, "that listens to the (9) \_\_\_\_\_

of people". She asked Spain's prime (10) \_\_\_\_\_. More

unrest could come. A declaration of Catalan independence could send Spain

into a constitutional (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the break-up of Spain.

Other regions might copy Catalonia and (12) \_\_\_\_\_

referendum.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia-4.html>

A strike in Catalonia brought large parts of Barcelona to a standstill. Thousands of Catalans protested over police violence during Sunday's independence referendum. Nearly 900 people were injured. Spain's government said the referendum was illegal. It told the police to break it up. Spain's king condemned the vote. He said people had put themselves "outside the law". He said the situation was "extremely serious". He also called for national unity. Barcelona's mayor said Catalans deserved a vote on independence. She said people needed a democratic response and a political solution, "that listens to the cries of millions of people". She asked Spain's prime minister to resign. More unrest could come. A declaration of Catalan independence could send Spain into a constitutional crisis and risk the break-up of Spain. Other regions might copy Catalonia and have their own referendum.

# CATALONIAN INDEPENDENCE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171005-catalonia-4.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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Catalonia workers strike for independence – 5th October, 2017*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

