



Learn English Through Stories.

U Series

U50

**Adapted and modified by
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<https://learn-by-reading.co.uk>

1. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the space.

(1) (**WORK**) at Shepparton Carpets Ltd voted today to continue with their industrial action. Union leader Elaine Watkins issued a statement saying: 'Although we do not envisage an all-out strike at this stage, everyone at the plant will continue to refuse to work (2) (**TIME**) until this dispute is settled. We urge (3) (**MANAGE**) to reconsider their proposals.' The industrial action, which began three weeks ago, has affected (4) (**PRODUCE**) at the factory. Joe Turner, Managing Director of Shepparton Carpets, has, however, refused to bow to union demands. 'If Shepparton Carpets wants to survive, it has to become more (5) (**COMPETE**),' he said. 'It is my responsibility as an (6) (**EMPLOY**) of over 500 (7) (**EMPLOY**) to ensure this company continues to make a profit. (8) (**PERIOD**), we have to make changes to improve efficiency. If we don't, we'll all be out of a job. It may not be pleasant, but it is essential. Some of the working practices at the factory are, frankly, (9) (**ANTIQU**) and totally (10) (**APPLY**) to the modern world. I just wish the unions would work with me on this, rather than fighting me every step of the way.'

2. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given.

- 11 That medicine was very effective and I started to feel better immediately. **magic**
That medicine and I started to feel better immediately.
- 12 The day started really well when we heard that Bob had been given his own TV series. **flying**
The day when we heard that Bob had been given his own TV series.
- 13 I do like this job, but I sometimes wonder if I've chosen the right career path. **again**
I do like this job, but I wonder if I've chosen the right career path.
- 14 The headmaster was determined to stop all bullying at the school. **end**
The headmaster was determined to to all bullying at the school.
- 15 No one nowadays believes in witches, do they? **age**
No one believes in witches, do they?
- 16 We were just about to leave for the airport when we heard all planes had been grounded. **point**
We were for the airport when we heard all planes had been grounded.
- 17 I'll just finish this e-mail and then I'll be with you. **second**
It finish this e-mail and then I'll be with you.
- 18 Ralph would hand in his resignation immediately if he could find a better job. **hat**
Ralph would hand in his resignation if he could find a better job.

3. Write one word in each gap.

- 19 Are you really snowed with work at the moment?
- 20 Could you lend me five euros to tide me until I get my pocket money?
- 21 Something's cropped so I'm afraid we'll have to postpone the meeting.
- 22 We'd better not take any more staff until sales increase.
- 23 I can easily while the whole afternoon reading a good book.
- 24 What time does Jenny usually knock from work?
- 25 The Prime Minister is determined to press with the changes despite concerns from his own MPs.
- 26 Over 3,000 workers were laid when the company moved its factory abroad.

4. If the word or phrase in bold is correct, put a tick. If it is incorrect, rewrite it correctly on the line.

- 27 This time next week **I'll laze** around at home.
- 28 Do you think **you'll have got** the computer set up by the time I arrive?
- 29 **Will I** get something for dinner when I go to the shop, Angie?
- 30 Sandy won't know which university she's going to until **she'll get** her exam results.
- 31 Watch out! That **car's reversing!**
- 32 When I grow up, **I'm being** a pop star!
- 33 Once we get your blood test results, **we decide** on the best course of action.
- 34 We **do change** trains at Birmingham tomorrow, actually.

5. Choose the correct answer.

- 35 At the end of the month, Sarah in government for exactly 40 years.
A is working C will be working
B will work D will have been working
- 36 The film is released at the end of next year.
A on the verge of being C due to be
B on the point of being D about to be
- 37 We'd just been informed that Nick the new Managing Director.
A was to be C is going to be
B was being D will be
- 38 'Would you pick the kids up from school this afternoon?'
'No, I'm afraid I'
A wouldn't C shan't
B can't D don't
- 39 Toby's extremely ; he turns up every day at nine o'clock on the dot.
A temporary C punctual
B long-standing D subsequent
- 40 Have you considered applying for a job with the service?
A civil C national
B civic D governmental
- 41 Too many people work in the public in this country, in my opinion.
A division C area
B zone D sector
- 42 Most teenagers go through a rebellious for a few years but they soon grow out of it.
A stint C duration
B span D phase

Answers

1. Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the space.

Workers at Shepparton Carpets Ltd voted today to continue with their industrial action. Union leader Elaine Watkins issued a statement saying: 'Although we do not envisage an all-out strike at this stage, everyone at the plant will continue to refuse to work **overtime** until this dispute is settled. We urge **management** to reconsider their proposals.' The industrial action, which began three weeks ago, has affected **production** at the factory. Joe Turner, Managing Director of Shepparton Carpets, has, however, refused to bow to union demands. 'If Shepparton Carpets wants to survive, it has to become more **competitive**,' he said. It is my responsibility as an **employer** of over 500 **employees** to ensure this company continues to make a profit. **Periodically**, we have to make changes to improve efficiency. If we don't, we'll all be out of a job. It may not be pleasant, but it is essential. Some of the working practices at the factory are, frankly, **antiquated** and totally **inapplicable** to the modern world. I just wish the unions would work with me on this, rather than fighting me every step of the way.'

2. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given.

11. That medicine was very effective and I started to feel better immediately.

That medicine **worked like magic** and I started to feel better immediately.

12. The day started really well when we heard that Bob had been given his own TV series.

The day **got off to a flying start** when we heard that Bob had been given his own TV series.

13. I do like this job, but I sometimes wonder if I've chosen the right career path.

I do like this job, but **every now and again** I wonder if I've chosen the right career path.

14. The headmaster was determined to stop all bullying at the school.

The headmaster was determined to **put an end** to all bullying at the school.

15. No one nowadays believes in witches, do they?

No one **in this day and age** believes in witches, do they?

16. We were just about to leave for the airport when we heard all planes had been grounded.

We were **just on the point of leaving** for the airport when we heard all planes had been grounded.

17. I'll just finish this e-mail and then I'll be with you.

It **will only take me a second to** finish this e-mail and then I'll be with you.

18. Ralph would hand in his resignation immediately if he could find a better job.

Ralph would hand in his resignation **at the drop of hat** if he could find a better job.

4. Write one word in each gap.

19. Are you really snowed **down** with work at the moment?

20. Could you lend me five euros to tide me **over** until I get my pocket money?

21. Something's cropped **up** so I'm afraid we'll have to postpone the meeting.

22. We'd better not take **on** any more staff until sales increase.

23. I can easily while the whole afternoon **away** reading a good book.

24. What time does Jenny usually knock **off** from work?

25. The Prime Minister is determined to press **on** with the changes despite concerns from his own MPs.

26. Over 3,000 workers were laid **off** when the company moved its factory abroad.

5. Answers

35 D 36 C 37 A 38 B 39 C 40 A 41 D 42 D