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Angry teachers in Mexico go on a riot

26th April, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Teachers in Mexico went on a riot on Wednesday. They are angry at changes to their jobs made by the government. Hundreds of angry teachers attacked the offices of political parties in Mexico's south-western Guerrero state. They broke windows, set fire to offices and sprayed graffiti on the walls. Thousands more rioters who are angry with the government joined the teachers in the streets. The state governor sent hundreds of police officers to guard the local government building. The police could not stop the violence, so mayor Mario Moreno asked for government support to control the situation. He told a local TV news station: "We do not have the ability to face a mob of 4,000 or 5,000 people."

The teachers are angry at changes that would take power away from their unions. Mexico's government wants more control over the quality of teachers and who becomes a teacher. Teaching unions currently assess the quality of education in schools. The government wants to do this instead, to make sure all schools have similar standards. They want teachers to pass tests to get jobs or get promoted. The government also wants to end the policy of buying and selling teaching jobs. Some teachers in Mexico give their position to a relative when they retire or quit. The biggest teaching unions are worried that many teachers will lose their jobs. They also fear that the government wants to control every school.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-22289368>
<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/americas/2013/04/2013424224735102626.html>

WARM-UPS

1. TEACHERS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about teachers. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

teachers / angry / political parties / graffiti / police officers / violence / a mob of 4,000 / control / quality of teachers / education / similar standards / get promoted / retire

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

3. TEACHING: What are the good and bad things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good	Bad
Salary		
Being with kids		
Working hours		
Holidays		
Teaching		
Status		

4. PAY: Students A **strongly** believe teachers should be paid more than bankers; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. SUBJECTS: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the subject you would most like to teach at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- English
- Information Technology
- a sport
- music
- religion
- your language
- a science
- maths

6. RIOT: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'riot'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| a. Teachers rioted in Mexico over possible government reforms. | T / F |
| b. Rioters sprayed stuff (drawings, writing, etc.) on walls. | T / F |
| c. A state governor ordered police officers to guard a private school. | T / F |
| d. A mayor said his police force could not control 4,000 angry people. | T / F |
| e. Teachers aren't happy with the government reducing union power. | T / F |
| f. The government usually controls the quality of teachers in Mexico. | T / F |
| g. The government wants teachers' relatives to take their jobs. | T / F |
| h. There are no worries about teachers losing their jobs. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. riot | a. help |
| 2. guard | b. rampage |
| 3. violence | c. worry about |
| 4. support | d. protect |
| 5. mob | e. almost the same |
| 6. control | f. crowd |
| 7. assess | g. stop working |
| 8. similar | h. judge |
| 9. retire | i. rioting |
| 10. fear | j. power |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. political | a. the violence |
| 2. sprayed | b. or quit |
| 3. police could not stop | c. of 4,000 |
| 4. asked for government support | d. similar standards |
| 5. face a mob | e. parties |
| 6. take power away | f. their jobs |
| 7. assess the quality | g. from their unions |
| 8. make sure all schools have | h. to control the situation |
| 9. when they retire | i. of education |
| 10. teachers will lose | j. graffiti on the walls |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Teachers in Mexico (1) _____ on a riot on Wednesday. They are angry at changes to their jobs made by the government. Hundreds of angry teachers (2) _____ the offices of political parties in Mexico's south-western Guerrero state. They broke windows, (3) _____ fire to offices and sprayed (4) _____ on the walls. Thousands more rioters who are angry with the government joined the teachers in the (5) _____. The state governor sent hundreds of police officers to guard the local government building. The police could not stop the (6) _____, so mayor Mario Moreno asked for government support to (7) _____ the situation. He told a local TV news station: "We do not have the ability to face a (8) _____ of 4,000 or 5,000 people."

went
attacked
set
graffiti
streets
violence
control
mob

The teachers are angry at changes that would (9) _____ power away from their unions. Mexico's government wants more control over the (10) _____ of teachers and who becomes a teacher. Teaching unions currently (11) _____ the quality of education in schools. The government wants to do this (12) _____, to make sure all schools have similar standards. They want teachers to pass tests to get jobs or get (13) _____. The government also wants to end the policy of buying and selling teaching jobs. Some teachers in Mexico give their position to a (14) _____ when they retire or quit. The biggest teaching (15) _____ are worried that many teachers will lose their jobs. They also (16) _____ that the government wants to control every school.

take
quality
assess
instead
promoted
relative
unions
fear

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

- 1) Teachers in Mexico _____ on Wednesday
 - a. when on a riot
 - b. went on a riot
 - c. want in a riot
 - d. went in a riot
- 2) Hundreds of angry teachers attacked the offices _____
 - a. of politically parties
 - b. of politics parties
 - c. of political parties
 - d. of politician parties
- 3) Thousands more rioters _____ the government joined the teachers
 - a. who are angry for
 - b. who are angry over
 - c. who are angry about
 - d. who are angry with
- 4) _____ asked for government support to _____
 - a. control a situation
 - b. control the situation
 - c. control this situation
 - d. control that situation
- 5) We do not have the ability _____ 4,000
 - a. to face a mob of
 - b. to pace a mob of
 - c. to lace a mob of
 - d. to race a mob of
- 6) _____ teachers are angry at changes that would take power away _____
 - a. from their onions
 - b. from their you knee ons
 - c. from their unions
 - d. from their union
- 7) Mexico's government wants more control over _____
 - a. the quantity of teachers
 - b. the quality of teachers
 - c. the quantify of teachers
 - d. the qualify of teachers
- 8) _____ make sure all schools have _____
 - a. similar standardise
 - b. similar standardisation
 - c. similar standards
 - d. similar standard
- 9) _____ end the _____ and selling teaching jobs
 - a. policy for buying
 - b. policy of buying
 - c. policy with buying
 - d. policy on buying
- 10) They _____ the government wants to control every school
 - a. also fear that
 - b. also afraid that
 - c. also frightened that
 - d. also terrify that

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LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Teachers in Mexico (1) _____ Wednesday. They are angry at changes to their jobs made by the government. Hundreds of angry teachers attacked the (2) _____ in Mexico's south-western Guerrero state. They broke windows, set fire to offices and sprayed (3) _____. Thousands more rioters who are angry with the government joined the teachers in the streets. The state governor sent hundreds of police (4) _____ government building. The police could not stop the violence, so mayor Mario Moreno asked for government support (5) _____. He told a local TV news station: "We do not have the (6) _____ of 4,000 or 5,000 people."

The teachers are angry at changes that would take power away from their unions. Mexico's government wants more (7) _____ of teachers and who becomes a teacher. Teaching (8) _____ the quality of education in schools. The government wants to do this instead, to make sure all schools (9) _____. They want teachers to pass tests to get (10) _____. The government also wants to end the policy of buying and selling teaching jobs. Some teachers in Mexico give their (11) _____ when they retire or quit. The biggest teaching unions are worried that many teachers will lose their jobs. They also fear that the government wants (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

1. Why are teachers in Mexico angry?

2. What did the teachers attack?

3. What did they do to walls?

4. Where did a local governor send police officers?

5. What did the mayor say he could not do?

6. What do teachers think the government wants to reduce the power of?

7. Who checks the standard of teachers at the moment?

8. What does the government want to start for teachers to get promoted?

9. What do some teachers do when they retire?

10. What do the biggest unions fear?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

1. Why are teachers in Mexico angry?
 - a) their students failed all their exams
 - b) the government wants to make changes to their jobs
 - c) they have to accept a 20% pay cut
 - d) many schools are closing
2. What did the teachers attack?
 - a) students
 - b) their classrooms
 - c) a university exam centre
 - d) the offices of political parties
3. What did they do to walls?
 - a) sprayed graffiti on them
 - b) knocked them down
 - c) used them to teach
 - d) build them
4. Where did a local governor send police officers?
 - a) Texas
 - b) home
 - c) a local government building
 - d) to a junior high school
5. What did the mayor say he could not do?
 - a) give pay raises
 - b) control mobs of 4,000-5,000 people
 - c) teach Spanish
 - d) try again to be mayor
6. What do teachers think the government wants to reduce the power of?
 - a) parents
 - b) students
 - c) unions
 - d) tests
7. Who checks the standard of teachers at the moment?
 - a) universities
 - b) the government
 - c) no one
 - d) unions
8. What does the government want to start for teachers to get promoted?
 - a) tests
 - b) new classes
 - c) a new school year
 - d) teaching English
9. What do some teachers do when they retire?
 - a) pass their job to a family member
 - b) start their own school
 - c) start a Facebook page for all their old students
 - d) dance
10. What do the biggest unions fear?
 - a) aggressive students
 - b) job losses
 - c) small unions
 - d) exam pass/fail rates

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ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Role A – Teacher

You think your job is one of the most important in the world. Tell the others three reasons why. You think the government should double your pay. You take home too much homework, so the government should also double the number of teachers. You don't think you should have to take tests every year.

Role B – School boss

You think teaching is one of the most important in the world. Tell the others three reasons why. You think teachers' pay is OK but they have to work long hours. You want the government to double the number of teachers so they can plan better lessons and take less homework home.

Role C – Education minister

You think teaching is important, but so is nursing, policing, etc. Teachers should not get paid more than nurses or police officers. Tell the others three reasons why. The government does not have enough money to pay teachers more or find more teachers. Taking work home is a teachers' job.

Role D – Office worker

You are tired of teachers complaining about their salary and working hours. Tell the others three reasons why. Teachers aren't in the classroom all day. They get very long holidays. Their salary is also pretty good. Working conditions are better than most jobs.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

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

angry	teacher
--------------	----------------

- 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">• changes• parties• fire• sent• control• face	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• power• quality• instead• pass• relative• fear
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

TEACHERS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about teachers 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.

TEACHERS DISCUSSION

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

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'teacher'?
- c) Do you think teachers do a difficult job?
- d) Would you like to be a teacher?
- e) What do you think of teachers rioting in the streets?
- f) Should the teachers talk instead of riot?
- g) Who is/was your favourite teacher and why?
- h) Why do people become teachers?
- i) How important are teachers?
- j) What is a good teacher?

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TEACHERS DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Should the government control the quality of teachers?
- c) Should teachers have to take a teaching test every year?
- d) What are the good and bad things about being a teacher?
- e) What do you think of teachers giving their jobs to their relatives?
- f) If you were a teacher, what would you teach, and why?
- g) Do you think teachers get paid enough money?
- h) Is teaching dangerous?
- i) What should happen to bad teachers?
- j) What questions would you like to ask one of the rioting teachers?

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. _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Teachers in Mexico went on a riot on Wednesday. They are angry at (1) _____ to their jobs made by the government. Hundreds of angry teachers attacked the offices of (2) _____ parties in Mexico's south-western Guerrero state. They broke windows, (3) _____ fire to offices and sprayed graffiti on the walls. Thousands more rioters who are angry with the government joined the teachers in the streets. The state governor sent hundreds of police officers to (4) _____ the local government building. The police could not stop the (5) _____, so mayor Mario Moreno asked for government support to control the situation. He told a local TV news station: "We do not have the ability to (6) _____ a mob of 4,000 or 5,000 people."

The teachers are angry at changes that would take power (7) _____ from their unions. Mexico's government wants more control over the quality of teachers and who becomes a teacher. Teaching unions currently (8) _____ the quality of education in schools. The government wants to do this instead, to make sure all schools have (9) _____ standards. They want teachers to pass tests to get jobs or get (10) _____. The government also wants to end the policy of buying and selling teaching jobs. Some teachers in Mexico give their position to a (11) _____ when they retire or quit. The biggest teaching unions are worried that many teachers will lose their jobs. They also (12) _____ that the government wants to control every school.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) changes | (b) chances | (c) charges | (d) challenges |
| 2. | (a) birthday | (b) angry | (c) political | (d) midnight |
| 3. | (a) let | (b) wet | (c) set | (d) met |
| 4. | (a) guide | (b) grade | (c) gourd | (d) guard |
| 5. | (a) violence | (b) violent | (c) violently | (d) violate |
| 6. | (a) head | (b) face | (c) back | (d) foot |
| 7. | (a) over | (b) up | (c) through | (d) away |
| 8. | (a) success | (b) assess | (c) confess | (d) recess |
| 9. | (a) same | (b) alike | (c) similar | (d) twin |
| 10. | (a) heightened | (b) raised | (c) upped | (d) promoted |
| 11. | (a) member | (b) ancestor | (c) generation | (d) relative |
| 12. | (a) afraid | (b) fear | (c) horror | (d) frightened |

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SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Paragraph 1

1. the ngovmtener
2. aliipoclt parties
3. sprayed ffiatingr on the walls
4. ragud the local ...
5. stop the veeoclin
6. control the iniostatu

Paragraph 2

7. take power away from their nsuion
8. the qtlyiau of teachers
9. do this dsnaeit
10. get oetodmrp
11. give their position to a Itaierve
12. drriewo that many teachers will lose their jobs

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () by the government. Hundreds of angry teachers attacked the offices of political parties in Mexico's south-
- () stop the violence, so mayor Mario Moreno asked for government support to control the
- () streets. The state governor sent hundreds of police officers to guard the local government building. The police could not
- (**1**) Teachers in Mexico went on a riot on Wednesday. They are angry at changes to their jobs made
- () wants more control over the quality of teachers and who becomes a teacher. Teaching unions currently assess the quality
- () on the walls. Thousands more rioters who are angry with the government joined the teachers in the
- () a relative when they retire or quit. The biggest teaching unions are worried that many
- () teachers will lose their jobs. They also fear that the government wants to control every school.
- () of education in schools. The government wants to do this instead, to make sure all schools have similar
- () The teachers are angry at changes that would take power away from their unions. Mexico's government
- () western Guerrero state. They broke windows, set fire to offices and sprayed graffiti
- () standards. They want teachers to pass tests to get jobs or get promoted. The government also wants to end the policy
- () of buying and selling teaching jobs. Some teachers in Mexico give their position to
- () situation. He told a local TV news station: "We do not have the ability to face a mob of 4,000 or 5,000 people."

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

1. went riot Mexico a Wednesday in on on Teachers.

2. attacked teachers angry of Hundreds offices the.

3. rioters with More angry are government who the.

4. for control Asked to support situation government the.

5. of face 4,000 The a ability mob to.

6. that would Angry take at power changes away.

7. the over control More teachers of quality.

8. schools all sure Make standards similar have.

9. and jobs the buying teaching End of selling policy.

10. will Worried lose that their many jobs teachers.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

Teachers in Mexico went on a riot on Wednesday. They are *anger* / *angry* at changes to their jobs made by the government. Hundreds of angry teachers *attacked* / *attacking* the offices of political *celebrations* / *parties* in Mexico's south-western Guerrero state. They broke windows, *set* / *let* fire to offices and sprayed *confetti* / *graffiti* on the walls. Thousands more rioters who are angry with the government *joined* / *joint* the teachers in the streets. The state governor sent hundreds of police officers to *grade* / *guard* the local government building. The police could not stop the *violent* / *violence*, so mayor Mario Moreno asked for government support to control the *station* / *situation*. He told a local TV news station: "We do not have the ability to *head* / *face* a mob of 4,000 or 5,000 people."

The teachers are angry at changes that would *take* / *give* power away from their *onions* / *unions*. Mexico's government wants more *remote* / *control* over the *quality* / *qualify* of teachers and who becomes a teacher. Teaching unions *currency* / *currently* assess the quality of education in schools. The government wants to do this *indeed* / *instead*, to make sure all schools have *similar* / *similarity* standards. They want teachers to pass tests to get jobs or get *promoted* / *promoting*. The government also wants to end the policy of buying and selling teaching jobs. Some teachers in Mexico give their position to a *relative* / *ancestor* when they retire or quit. The biggest teaching unions are worried that many teachers will lose their jobs. They also *afraid* / *fear* that the government wants to control every school.

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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

T__ch_rs _n M_x_c_ w_nt _n _r__t _n W_dn_sd_y.
Th_y _r_ _ngry _t ch_ng_s t_ th__r j_bs m_d_ by th_
g_v_rnm_nt. H_ndr_ds _f _ngry t__ch_rs _tt_ck_d th_
_ff_c_s _f p_l_t_c_l p_rt__s _n M_x_c_'s s__th_
w_st_rn G__rr_r_ st_t_. Th_y br_k_ w_nd_ws, s_t_f_r_
t_ _ff_c_s _nd spr_y_d gr_ff_t_ _n th_ w_lls.
Th__s_nds m_r_ r__t_rs wh_ _r_ _ngry w_th th_
g_v_rnm_nt j__n_d th_ t__ch_rs _n th_ str__ts. Th_
st_t_ g_v_rn_r s_nt h_ndr_ds _f p_l_c_ _ff_c_rs t_
g__rd th_ l_c_l g_v_rnm_nt b__ld_ng. Th_ p_l_c_ c__ld
n_t st_p th_ v__l_nc_, s_m_y_r M_r__ M_r_n_ _sk_d
f_r g_v_rnm_nt s_pp_r_t t_ c_ntr_l th_ s_t__t__n. H_
t_ld _l_c_l TV n_ws st_t__n: "W_ d_ n_t h_v_ th_
_b_l_ty t_f_c_ _m_b_f 4,000 _r 5,000 p__pl_."

Th_ t__ch_rs _r_ _ngry _t ch_ng_s th_t w__ld t_k_
p_w_r_w_y fr_m th__r _n__ns. M_x_c_'s g_v_rnm_nt
w_nts m_r_ c_ntr_l _v_r th_ q__l_ty _f t__ch_rs _nd
wh_ b_c_m_s _t__ch_r. T__ch_ng _n__ns c_rr_ntly
_ss_ss th_ q__l_ty _f _d_c_t__n _n sch__ls. Th_
g_v_rnm_nt w_nts t_ d_ th_s _nst__d, t_m_k_ s_r__ll
sch__ls h_v_ s_m_l_r st_nd_rds. Th_y w_nt t__ch_rs t_
p_ss_t_sts t_g_t j_bs _r_g_t pr_m_t_d. Th_ g_v_rnm_nt
ls w_nts t_ _nd th_ p_l_cy _f b_y_ng _nd s_ll_ng
t__ch_ng j_bs. S_m_ t__ch_rs _n M_x_c_ g_v_ th__r
p_s_t__n t_ _r_l_t_v_ wh_n th_y r_t_r_ _r_q__t. Th_
b_gg_st t__ch_ng _n__ns _r_ w_rr__d th_t m_ny
t__ch_rs w_ll_l_s_ th__r j_bs. Th_y _ls_ f__r th_t th_
g_v_rnm_nt w_nts t_ c_ntr_l _v_ry sch__l.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130426-teachers.html>

teachers in mexico went on a riot on wednesday they are angry at changes to their jobs made by the government hundreds of angry teachers attacked the offices of political parties in mexico's south-western guerrero state they broke windows set fire to offices and sprayed graffiti on the walls thousands more rioters who are angry with the government joined the teachers in the streets the state governor sent hundreds of police officers to guard the local government building the police could not stop the violence so mayor mario moreno asked for government support to control the situation he told a local tv news station "we do not have the ability to face a mob of 4000 or 5000 people"

the teachers are angry at changes that would take power away from their unions mexico's government wants more control over the quality of teachers and who becomes a teacher teaching unions currently assess the quality of education in schools the government wants to do this instead to make sure all schools have similar standards they want teachers to pass tests to get jobs or get promoted the government also wants to end the policy of buying and selling teaching jobs some teachers in mexico give their position to a relative when they retire or quit the biggest teaching unions are worried that many teachers will lose their jobs they also fear that the government wants to control every school

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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Teachers in Mexico went on a riot on Wednesday. They are angry at changes to their jobs made by the government. Hundreds of angry teachers attacked the offices of political parties in Mexico's south-western Guerrero state. They broke windows, set fire to offices and sprayed graffiti on the walls. Thousands more rioters who are angry with the government joined the teachers in the streets. The state governor sent hundreds of police officers to guard the local government building. The police could not stop the violence, so mayor Mario Moreno asked for government support to control the situation. He told a local TV news station: "We do not have the ability to face a mob of 4,000 or 5,000 people." The teachers are angry at changes that would take power away from their unions. Mexico's government wants more control over the quality of teachers and who becomes a teacher. Teaching unions currently assess the quality of education in schools. The government wants to do this instead, to make sure all schools have similar standards. They want teachers to pass tests to get jobs or get promoted. The government also wants to end the policy of buying and selling teaching jobs. Some teachers in Mexico give their position to a relative when they retire or quit. The biggest teaching unions are worried that many teachers will lose their jobs. They also fear that the government wants to control every school.

Angry teachers in Mexico go on a riot – 26th April, 2013

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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 the rioting teachers in Mexico. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. TEACHERS: Make a poster about a teacher's job. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. RIOT: Write a magazine article about the riots. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against them.

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 a rioting teacher. Ask him/her three questions about teachers. Give him/her three of your opinions on what to do next. 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 T c F d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. riot | a. help |
| 2. guard | b. rampage |
| 3. violence | c. worry about |
| 4. support | d. protect |
| 5. mob | e. almost the same |
| 6. control | f. crowd |
| 7. assess | g. stop working |
| 8. similar | h. judge |
| 9. retire | i. rioting |
| 10. fear | j. power |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The government wants to make changes to their jobs
2. The offices of political parties
3. Sprayed graffiti on them
4. A local government building
5. Control mobs of 4,000-5,000 people
6. Unions
7. Unions
8. Tests
9. Give their job to a relative
10. Job losses

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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