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## **Level 0**

# **U.S. fast-food workers stop working**

**1st September, 2013**

<http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130901-minimum-wage-0.html>

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**Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130901-minimum-wage-0.html>

U.S. fast-food workers went on strike. They want more money.

They get \$7.25 an hour - the same as 2009. They cannot live on that. Prices have gone up but their wages have not. The workers want \$15 an hour. One worker told the BBC his \$9 an hour isn't enough. He is risking his job. He wants to fight for more money.

McDonald's said restaurant managers decide about wages. It said higher wages mean more expensive burgers. Its profits were over \$5.5 billion in 2011. Wages are low because the staff are young. They have little work experience. Five per cent of fast-food workers get \$7.25. Most of those are part-timers. Half are teenagers.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-23886031>  
<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-fast-food-strike-20130829,0,5180708.story?track=rss>  
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/business/2013/08/28/low-wage-workers/2711379/>

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130901-minimum-wage-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. fast-food workers went on     | a. as 2009        |
| 2. They want more                | b. an hour        |
| 3. They get \$7.25               | c. for more money |
| 4. the same                      | d. on that        |
| 5. They cannot live              | e. strike         |
| 6. Prices have gone up but their | f. enough         |
| 7. \$9 an hour isn't             | g. money          |
| 8. He wants to fight             | h. wages have not |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. managers decide        | a. over \$5.5 billion |
| 2. higher wages mean more | b. are part-timers    |
| 3. Its profits were       | c. expensive burgers  |
| 4. Wages are              | d. teenagers          |
| 5. They have little work  | e. about wages        |
| 6. Five per cent of       | f. low                |
| 7. Most of those          | g. experience         |
| 8. Half are               | h. fast-food workers  |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130901-minimum-wage-0.html>

U.S. fast-food workers (1) \_\_\_\_\_. They want more money. They (2) \_\_\_\_\_ an hour - the same as 2009. They cannot (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Prices have gone (4) \_\_\_\_\_ wages have not. The workers want \$15 an hour. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the BBC his \$9 an hour isn't enough. He is (6) \_\_\_\_\_. He wants to fight for more money.

McDonald's said restaurant managers (7) \_\_\_\_\_. It said higher (8) \_\_\_\_\_ expensive burgers. Its profits were over (9) \_\_\_\_\_ 2011. Wages are low because the (10) \_\_\_\_\_. They have little work experience. (11) \_\_\_\_\_ fast-food workers get \$7.25. Most of those (12) \_\_\_\_\_. Half are teenagers.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130901-minimum-wage-0.html>

U.S.fast-foodworkerswentonstrike.Theywantmoremoney.They  
get\$7.25anhour-thesameas2009.Theycannotliveonthat.Price  
shavegoneupbuttheirwageshavenot.Theworkerswant\$15anhour.  
OneworkertoldtheBBCis\$9anhourisn'tenough.Heisriskinghisjob.  
Hewantstofightformoremoney.McDonald'ssaidrestaurantmanage  
rsdecideaboutwages.Itsaidhigherwagesmeanmoreexpensivebur  
gers.Itsprofitswereover\$5.5billionin2011.Wagesarelowbecause  
hestaffareyoung.Theyhavelittleworkexperience.Fivepercentoffas  
t-foodworkersget\$7.25.Mostofthosearepart-timers.Halfar  
eteenagers.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*U.S. fast-food workers stop working – 1st September, 2013*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

