

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UK_17gWaFTI



What the Fuck France – Les grèves

Hi my name is Paul Taylor, I'm English but I live here in France.
And one of the things that I've never understood is
the concept of les grèves

It seems to me that les grèves is like the Second Amendment in the US. You know, no other country understands it. It's a pain in the arse and people get really angry when they take it away. I get it Jean-Pierre. You go on strike because you want more money and more holidays but the French company you work for disagrees. It's like every divorce negotiation.

“Divorce pour tous!”

And like every divorce negotiation, it doesn't just get solved by you bugging off down the street with your mates. It's just really annoying!

“Now why is it annoying, Paul?”

I'm glad you asked. It's really annoying for one reason

Number one: because your going on strike for your own selfish reasons has a domino effect for the rest of us. For example today is my grandmother's birthday and because she lives in England the wine that she drinks tastes like the devil's piss. So I'm gonna send her this quality box of wine, but I need to go to the post office. But they're on strike or at their lunch? It is really difficult to tell.

“A mort les courriels, A mort les courriels”

Ah, no, they're definitely on strike because of e-mails. E-mails take away jobs.

And because I can't send this to my grandma, I'm going to deliver it myself.

“Taxi!” So I try and get a taxi to the airport but there's no taxis anywhere because they're also on strike because of new technology. You know new technology that thing that moves the world forward like space exploration and selfies. No you don't. Because in France new technologies are considered 'unfair competition'. Strike!

So now the only way I can get to the airport is to take the train. (announcement) “Un arrêt de travail ...” But you guessed it, they're also on strike. Well it's because of the taxi strike now more people are taking the train which leads to overcrowding on the train which leads to more work for the train companies and they don't like it.

So the only way I can get this quality box of wine to my grandma now is to run to England with my feet. On your marks, get set, go! And guess what if going on strike was an Olympic sport, you would win all the medals but it's not. So you don't.

Oh now what's going on?

“Hey sorry excuse me, why are you on strike?”

“Non j'suis pas en grève, j'essaye d'aller à mon bureau là”

How wonderful! The streets are now overcrowded because of the train strike and all of that is because of Jean-Michel and his *fuckin'* taxi !

“Oui, enfin, c'est un peu plus compliqué que ça, quand même, Paul, hein.”

Yeah, he's right, it *is* more complicated than that. It's so complicated they've had to create this website cestlagreve.fr to find out exactly what strikes are happening around you. There's even an app for that where you can submit your own strike.

Actually, you know what, I'm gonna submit my own strike : against strikes.

“No more strikes ! No more strikes ! No more strikes ! “

“No you idiots. Shut up! Get back to work!”

“Back to work! Back to work! Back to work!”

Sorry, grandma. Happy birthday!

“Ha – ppy birthday!Ha – ppy birthday!”

Find English equivalents in the transcript

casse-pieds, chi***t

une grève

se mettre en grève

être en grève

être en désaccord

fuir lâchement

copains, potes

pénible, embêtant, ennuyeux

pipi de chat

supprimer des emplois

faire avancer (progrès)

concurrence déloyale

overcrowded

à vos marques, prêt, partez

super, merveilleux

put*** de taxi

contre, (opposé à)

reprendre le travail

True, false, we cant' tell? Explain. Develop

The right to strike is written in the American constitution.

Employers/bosses and employees often have the same view on the demands/claims of workers.

Strikes can have a domino effect where one strike leads to another.

All the French are opposed to new technologies because they take jobs away.

The concept of striking is not as simple as it looks.

In the video, Paul Taylor mocks taxi-drivers, Laposte employees, civil servants, office workers and sportsmen.

What is the aim of the video ? / What is Paul Taylor aiming at?

TEACHER

Find English equivalents in the transcript

casse-pieds, chi***t	a pain in the arse
une grève	a strike
se mettre en grève	go on strike / strike
être en grève	be on strike
être en désaccord	disagree
fuir lâchement	buggering off (vulgaire)
copains, potes	mates
pénible, embêtant, ennuyeux	annoying
pipi de chat	devil's piss (vulgaire)
supprimer des emplois	take away jobs
faire avancer (progrès)	move forward
concurrence déloyale	unfair competition
overcrowded	surpeuplé
à vos marques, prêt, partez	on your marks, get set, go
super, merveilleux	wonderful
put*** de taxi	f***g taxi
contre, (opposé à)	against
reprendre le travail	get back to work

True, false, we cant' tell? Explain. Develop

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