

## 84 On Strike

- Busmen have decided to go on strike next week. The strike is due to begin on Tuesday. No one knows how long it will last. The busmen have stated that the strike will continue until general agreement is reached about pay and working conditions. Most people believe that the strike will last for at least a week. Many owners of private cars are going to offer 'free rides' to people on their way to work. This will relieve pressure on the trains to some extent. Meanwhile, a number of university students have volunteered to drive buses while the strike lasts. All the young men are expert drivers, but before they drive any of the buses, they will have to pass a special test. The students are going to take the test in two days' time. Even so, people are going to find it difficult to get to work. But so far, the public has expressed its gratitude to the students in letters to the Press. Only one or two people have objected that the students will drive too fast!



### Précis

In not more than 80 words, describe what will happen next week. Write two different paragraphs using the points and connections given below.

CONNECTIONS  
*which*

*Because of this*

*, too,*

*but*

*Though*

*Only  
that*

#### POINTS

1. Busmen's strike begins Tuesday.
2. May last a week.
3. Car-owners—rides.
4. People going—work.
5. University students—volunteered—buses.
6. Pass special test.
7. Difficult to get to work.
8. Public grateful.
9. One or two objected.
10. Too fast.

#### CONNECTIONS

*Because . . . which*

*who*

*Despite the fact that*

*except for . . . who  
that*

### Composition

Write two paragraphs in about 150 words using the ideas given below:

1. The strike began—the students drove badly—the buses were seldom on time—often crowded—the public complained—the busmen were pleased.
2. The students threatened to go on strike—they did so—this angered the busmen who returned to work.

### Letter-writing

*The Conclusion.* Complete the following sentences:

1. I shall be looking . . .
2. I am very sorry for . . .
3. I hope you will . . .
4. I wish you . . .
5. Please give my . . .

## Key Structures

What will happen? Review: KS 35, 93, 149.

### Exercises

A. Underline all the verbs in the passage which tell us what will happen.

B. Give the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Do not refer to the passage until you finish the exercise:

Busmen have decided to go on strike next week. The strike is due to begin on Tuesday. No one knows how long it (last). The busmen have stated that the strike (continue) until general agreement (reach) about pay and working conditions. Most people believe that the strike (last) for a week. Many owners of private cars (offer) 'free rides' to people on their way to work. This (relieve) pressure on the trains to some extent. Meanwhile, a number of university students have volunteered to drive buses while the strike (last). All the young men are expert drivers, but before they (drive) any of the buses, they (have to) pass a special test. The students (take) the test in two days' time. Even so, people (find) it difficult to get to work. But so far, the public has expressed its gratitude to the students in letters to the Press. Only one or two people have objected that the students (drive) too fast!

## Special Difficulties

Study the word order in the following sentences:

People are going to find it difficult to get to work. (l. 18)

He thought it easy to pass the examination.

He considered it wrong that she should have to wait.

I feel it right that he should be punished.

I think it wrong for people to behave like that.

### Exercise

Supply the missing parts in the following sentences. Your sentences must be similar in form to those given above.

1. He thought it . . .
2. He finds it unnecessary . . .
3. . . . to find a job.
4. She thinks it important . . .
5. . . . for him to wait so long.
6. . . . a good thing that . . .