

THE THATCHER YEARS AND THE MINERS' STRIKE OF 1984 .

1. The Thatcher Years. Complete this summary thanks to the suggested link.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaret_Thatcher

Margaret Thatcher was the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from _____ to _____. She started as an _____ after the 1959 election and became the leader of the _____ in 1975.

As a Prime Minister she had to deal with r_____ due to the economic crisis. So she started a lot of p_____ and reduced i_____ t_____ while she increased _____.

She wanted to reduce the influence of _____. This was particularly hard during the _____ strikes in _____ as shown in *Billy Elliot*.

She was nicknamed – and is still remembered as - “the _____”.

She was bestowed upon the title of “_____” by the Queen in 1990 and received many other honours such as the _____ of the _____ or the _____ of _____.

2. The miners' strike in 1984. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/3494024.stm

a. Vocabulary. Skim the text and find out the right translation of the following words by linking them.

ENGLISH	FRENCH
STRIKE	SYNDICAT
TRADE UNION	OUTILS
A PIT	DU CHARBON
COAL	TENIR EN OTAGE
TOOLS	GRÈVE
HOLD TO RANSOM	SCRUTIN
BALLOT	HOULLIÈRES
COLLIERIES	UNE MINE

b. Answer the questions clicking on the provided link.

i. Where was the first pit to go on strike?

ii. When did it happen? _____

iii. How many pits would be closed? _____

iv. What would be the consequences on the miners?

v. What happened a week after the first strike?

vi. What was the name of the main trade union?

vii. Why didn't Mrs. Thatcher want to negotiate?

viii. What was the name of the official state representation in this conflict?

ix. What were the names of the two antagonist leaders in this conflict?

x. What were Mrs. Thatcher's first measures against the trade unions?

xi. What are "flying pickets" (see examples in *Billy Elliot*)

xii. What happened in Orgreave?

xiii. When did the movement end?

xiv. Who was the winner? Why?
