

Use of english - Part 2 Open cloze

A DISCONTENTED PARENT

For three years, on and _1_)_____ the teachers in Britain had been on strike or going slow. One parent, _2_)_____ daughter received at the end of the summer a computer print-out telling her she had failed her school-leaving examinations (known in England _3_)_____ Olevel), expressed the anger of many:

"... when someone I love, who has worked hard and intelligently, is reduced _4_)_____ tears by a computer print-out I start to look for reasons. I start to reflect on her _5_)_____ throughout the year to share textbooks with a friend. I reflect on the number of classes she attended which the relevant teacher, in pursuit of a dispute, _6_)_____ not.... I reflect on the teacher who did not and does not set homework _7_)_____ he 'doesn't believe in it.' Perhaps most of all, I reflect on _8_)_____ might have been, _9_)_____ not my daughter spent a crucial year in her life _10_)_____ treated like an educational football by a profession so cosseted that faced with the threat of being assessed it walked _11_)_____ the job.

"My wife and I cannot be the _12_)_____ parents in this country who do not give a damn what teachers believe in. What we believe in is the right of our children to an education uninterrupted by disputes and untrammelled by pseudo-philosophical stances _13_)_____ homework which are at best irrelevant and at worst plain idle. It may be that the anger and resentment I feel now is no substitute _14_)_____ calm, rational thought followed by constructive action. But the first member of the National Union of Teachers who thinks of throwing that one at me had _15_)_____ rehearse it first. In front of a mirror."