

**Objective:** To learn some work-related vocabulary.

**Think about it!**

Have you ever been sick while you were on holiday? What happened? When was the last time you had a day off work or you didn't go into college? What was wrong?

SORRY, BUT I CAN'T  
COME INTO WORK  
TODAY. I'M SICK.

# WHAT TO DO IF YOU GET ILL WHILE YOU'RE ON HOLIDAY?

Imagine this: you've been **working hard** all year and you're finally on your 2-week holiday. But three days into your **vacation**, you **get sick** and you have to spend the rest of the time in bed. Should you get some form of **compensation**? Luckily for some, there's a new **ruling** from the European Court of Justice. This allows **EU** workers to **claim back** holiday time if they **fall ill** during their **annual leave**. Do you think it's fair? Here are two opinions.

**Debate question: Should workers be able to claim back holiday time if they fall ill during paid leave?**

**YES!** by Kiera Smithers  
As far as I'm concerned, holidays are there for a reason – so you can **recuperate** after a year of hard work, and then return **refreshed** and ready to work again. If you're sick on holiday, you'll come back even more **run down** than before. And this will mean that you're even more **likely** to get sick. So, why should

someone who has worked hard all year have their holiday ruined (the one time in the year when you can really relax) because they got sick when they were meant to be resting? Imagine if you **came down with something** and had to fly home early or spend the rest of the time in bed – you'd definitely want some form of compensation, wouldn't you?

**NO!** by Aaron Harper  
I think this law is ridiculous. I mean, it's just so **open to abuse** – people will go on holiday, then come back and claim that they'd been ill the whole time, and then go on holiday *again*! Another thing, all this depends on your definition of being "sick". I mean, some people will go to bed if they've got a headache or minor cold; but others will come to work despite having the flu or a **dodgy tummy**. Finally, it's all a bit unfair on "honest" workers. I mean, if you come back from your holiday, then take some more sick leave, other people are going to have to cover for your absence and work twice as hard. In my opinion, if

you're ill on a workday, it's bad luck for your employer; but if you're ill on holiday, then it's just bad luck for you. ✪

Answers on page 41

## 1 Pre-reading

Do you think workers should be able to have extra holiday if they get sick during their annual vacation? Think of arguments in favour or against this.

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which arguments do you agree with?

## 3 Reading II

Add letters to complete the words in the sentences.

- After your holiday, you'll return **refr\_\_\_\_\_** and ready to work again.
- He got **s\_\_\_\_** while he was on holiday.
- She came **d\_\_\_\_** with something and had to fly home.
- The system is open to **ab\_\_\_\_\_**.
- If you're off sick, people are going to have to cover for your **abs\_\_\_\_\_**.

## GLOSSARY

**to work hard** *exp*  
to work a lot; to make a big effort to do something

**a vacation** *n (US)*  
a holiday; a break from work

**to get sick** *exp*  
if you "get sick", you become ill (you catch a cold / a virus, etc.) and feel very bad

**compensation** *n*  
if you receive "compensation", you receive money, etc. after something bad has happened to you

**a ruling** *n*  
a legal decision

**EU** *abbr*  
the European Union

**to claim back** *exp*  
if you "claim back" something (money, etc.), you ask for that thing formally after you lose it or it is taken away from you

**to fall ill** *exp*  
to become sick (to catch a cold, etc.)

**annual leave** *n*  
the holiday time you receive every year at your job

**to recuperate** *vb*  
if you "recuperate", you become well and healthy again after being ill

**refreshed** *adj*  
if you feel "refreshed", you feel good and healthy after you have rested

**run down** *adj*  
if you feel "run down", you feel tired and bad

**likely** *exp*  
if something is "likely" to happen, it will probably happen

**to come down with something** *exp*  
if you "come down with something", you get sick / ill

**open to abuse** *exp*  
if a system is "open to abuse", you can use it in a dishonest / bad way

**a dodgy tummy** *exp inform*  
if you've got a "dodgy tummy", your stomach hurts / there's a pain in your stomach

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. Answer the questions

- What does the new ruling from the European Court of Justice allow EU workers to do?**
  - A) Change their holiday dates.
  - B) Take additional paid leave after their holiday.
  - C) Claim back holiday time if they fall ill during their annual leave
- According to Kiera Smithers, what is the main purpose of holidays?**
  - A) To travel to new places.
  - B) To recuperate after a year of hard work.
  - C) To spend more time with family.
- What concern does Aaron Harper have regarding the new ruling?**
  - A) It may lead to workers abusing the system.
  - B) It might lead to more vacations
  - C) It is not helpful for sick employees.
- How does Kiera Smithers view getting sick during a holiday?**
  - A) It is a normal occurrence.
  - B) It ruins the holiday experience.
  - C) It should not matter.
- According to Aaron Harper, how do “honest” workers suffer from this law?**
  - A) They have to take more sick leave.
  - B) They must work harder to cover for those who abuse the system.
  - C) They do not get enough vacation time.

## 2 Reading II

Read the article once again. Match the words in bold with the translation.

1. Vacation	<input type="checkbox"/> Ежегодный отпуск
2. Claim back	<input type="checkbox"/> Чувствовать себя усталым
3. Annual leave	<input type="checkbox"/> Восстановить силы
4. recuperate	<input type="checkbox"/> Больной живот
5. Run down	<input type="checkbox"/> отпуск
6. Dodgy tummy	<input type="checkbox"/> Требовать вернуть назад

## Shopping problems (Listening 3)

**Listening Task 1. People are talking about shopping. Listen and circle the correct information about each person.**

### Speaker 1

- a She enjoyed going to the store.
- b There were good bargains.
- c She bought many things.

### Speaker 2

- a He didn't like the clothes he bought.
- b He didn't buy much.
- c Most of the things he bought were good.

### Speaker 3

- a The camera cost nearly \$250.
- b The camera doesn't work well.
- c The camera cost more at an online store.

### Speaker 4

- a She thought the prices were reasonable.
- b She bargained when she bought them.
- c Her friend got things for a higher price.

**Listening Task 2. Listen again. What phrase completes each statement? Write the correct letter.**

1) Next time, she won't \_\_\_\_

2) Next time, he'll save his money and \_\_\_\_

3) Next time, he'll spend more time \_\_\_\_

4) Next time, she'll be sure to \_\_\_\_

a comparing prices before buying something.

b go shopping during a big sale.

c bargain.

d wait for the sales at home.

## Writing task

**Read the task. Then prepare to write your blog post by inventing answers to questions 1-5 below.**

You are on holiday with a friend, touring around a country. Write a blog entry with information about:

- where you are touring and how you are travelling
- the weather
- some places you have stayed
- something you plan to do in the next few days.

*Write 200 – 250 words*