



East Coast Ports Union Gathers to Discuss Wages, Strike Plans

Description

The International Longshoremen's Association union is asking for a big pay raise in their new contract. They represent 45,000 workers at ports from Texas to Maine.

They may go on strike on October 1 if they don't get what they want. They are talking with the United States Maritime Alliance about wages, automation, healthcare, and retirement benefits.

The union wants a 77 percent pay increase over the new contract. If they don't reach a deal before September 30, the current contract will expire.

If there's a strike, important ports like New York/New Jersey, Houston, and Charleston will be affected. This could cause problems during the holiday season and the presidential elections.

Retailers and other industry groups are calling for both sides to keep talking. They are worried about the impact on the economy and consumers if there's a strike.

It's important to keep goods moving smoothly at the ports for everyone's benefit.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Association** /əˌsoʊ.sɪ'eɪ.ʃən/ (noun): A group of people organized for a joint purpose.
2. **Negotiation** /nɪˌɡoʊ.ʃi'eɪ.ʃən/ (noun): Discussion aimed at reaching an agreement.
3. **Automation** /ˌɔː.təˈmeɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The use of technology to perform tasks without human intervention.
4. **Contract** /'kɒn.trækt/ (noun): A formal agreement between two or more parties.
5. **Strike** /straɪk/ (noun): A refusal to work as a form of protest.
6. **Impact** /'ɪm.pækt/ (noun): The strong effect or influence that something has.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Which union is asking for a big pay raise in their new contract?

Option: International Longshoremen's Association



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- Option: United States Maritime Alliance
Option: Retailers Association
Option: Port Workers Union
2. How many workers does the International Longshoremen's Association union represent?
Option: 20,000
Option: 30,000
Option: 45,000
Option: 60,000
3. What is the deadline for reaching a deal before the current contract expires?
Option: October 1
Option: September 30
Option: August 15
Option: November 11
4. Which important ports could be affected by a potential strike?
Option: Los Angeles, Long Beach, Seattle
Option: New York/New Jersey, Houston, Charleston
Option: Miami, New Orleans, San Francisco
Option: Boston, Chicago, Detroit
5. What are the main topics of discussion between International Longshoremen's Association union and United States Maritime Alliance?
Option: Weather conditions, Shipping routes, Cargo handling
Option: Wages, Automation, Healthcare, Retirement benefits
Option: Environmental regulations, Union dues, Safety protocols
Option: Employee training, Technology upgrades, Workplace culture
6. Who is calling for both sides to keep talking to avoid a strike?
Option: Government officials
Option: Industry groups, Retailers, and Consumers
Option: International mediator
Option: Port authorities and labor unions

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. International Longshoremen's Association 2. 45,000 3. September 30 4. New York/New Jersey, Houston, Charleston 5. Wages, Automation, Healthcare, Retirement benefits 6. Industry groups, Retailers, and Consumers



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What drives individuals to take action towards a goal or outcome?
Option: A. Compete
Option: B. Mastery
Option: C. Motivation
Option: D. Ownership
2. Which term refers to a particular form or branch of economic or commercial activity?
Option: A. Opportunities
Option: B. Industry
Option: C. Fulfilling
Option: D. Negotiation
3. What can arise in a situation with conflicting interests or emotions?
Option: A. Opportunities
Option: B. Tensions
Option: C. Impact
Option: D. Mastery
4. Which factor is considered as a potential threat impacting objectives?
Option: A. Achievements
Option: B. Risk
Option: C. Mastery
Option: D. Contract
5. What is the charge for the privilege of borrowing money typically expressed as a percentage?
Option: A. Yield
Option: B. Strike
Option: C. Interest
Option: D. Rates
6. What process involves making a system operate automatically?
Option: A. Fulfilling
Option: B. Automation
Option: C. Ownership
Option: D. Grateful
7. Which term denotes looking forward to something as likely to happen?



- Option: A. Rates
- Option: B. Expecting
- Option: C. Achievements
- Option: D. Risks

8. What refers to a connection or cooperative link between people or organizations?

- Option: A. Grateful
- Option: B. Association
- Option: C. Mindsets
- Option: D. Strike

9. Which term means to follow or chase after a goal or objective?

- Option: A. Pursue
- Option: B. Yield
- Option: C. Indicators
- Option: D. Ownership

10. What object is commonly used for sitting that often accompanies a table?

- Option: A. Fulfilling
- Option: B. Interest
- Option: C. Chair
- Option: D. Mastery

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. In business successful _____ can lead to mutually beneficial agreements.

12. The exchange of goods and services between businesses or individuals is known as

_____.

13. Protecting a nation's sovereignty and citizens from external threats is a key aspect of

_____.

14. The return on an investment is often expressed as a percentage known as the _____.

15. The legal right to possess use and dispose of something is known as _____.

16. Workers may collectively stop working as a form of protest known as a _____.



17. The effect or influence that one thing has on another is referred to as _____.
18. Favorable circumstances or chances for progress and advancement are known as _____.
19. Recognition or accomplishment resulting from effort skill or perseverance are _____.
20. The established set of attitudes held by someone is referred to as their _____.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Evaluating similarities and differences between two or more things is a form of .
22. The state of being skilled or knowledgeable in a particular subject or activity is called .
23. Engaging in activities that bring a sense of satisfaction and contentment can be described as .
24. Signals or signs that provide information about a situation or state of affairs are known as .
25. Feeling or showing an appreciation for kindness or benefits received is to be .
26. Obstacles or difficulties that test one's abilities or strengths are considered as to overcome.
27. Potential threats or negative outcomes that may arise from a decision or action are regarded as .
28. The price or cost of using money often expressed as a percentage is known as .
29. A raw material or primary agricultural product that can be bought and sold is known as a .
30. Having the legal right to possess control and make decisions about something signifies .

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. C. Motivation 2. B. Industry 3. B. Tensions 4. B. Risk 5. C. Interest 6. B. Automation 7. B. Expecting 8. B. Association 9. A. Pursue 10. C. Chair

Gap-Fill: 11. negotiation 12. commerce 13. national security 14. yield 15. ownership 16. strike 17. impact 18. opportunities 19. achievements 20. mindsets

Matching sentence: 1. comparison 2. mastery 3. fulfilling 4. indicators 5. grateful 6. challenges 7. risks 8. rates 9. commodity 10. ownership



CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL2

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