

Unite ELT - past, present and future

Anne Dunne
Colette Godkin
English Language Teachers' Branch



A large red square with a white border, centered on a white background. Inside the square, the text "Trade Unions" is written in white.

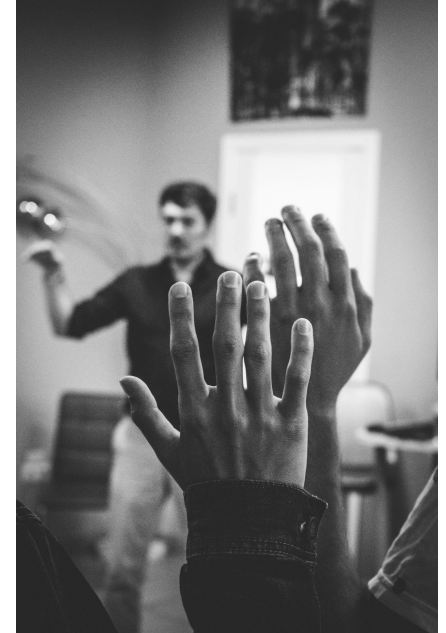
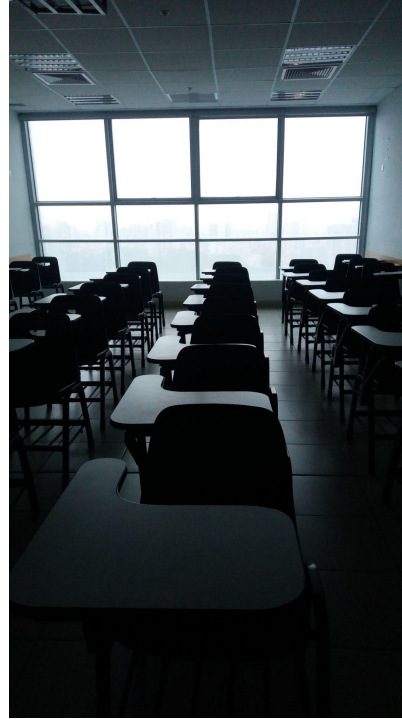
Trade Unions

Trade unions



Personal narratives

1. Keeping a school going
2. Adequate notice
3. Standing up to bullying.





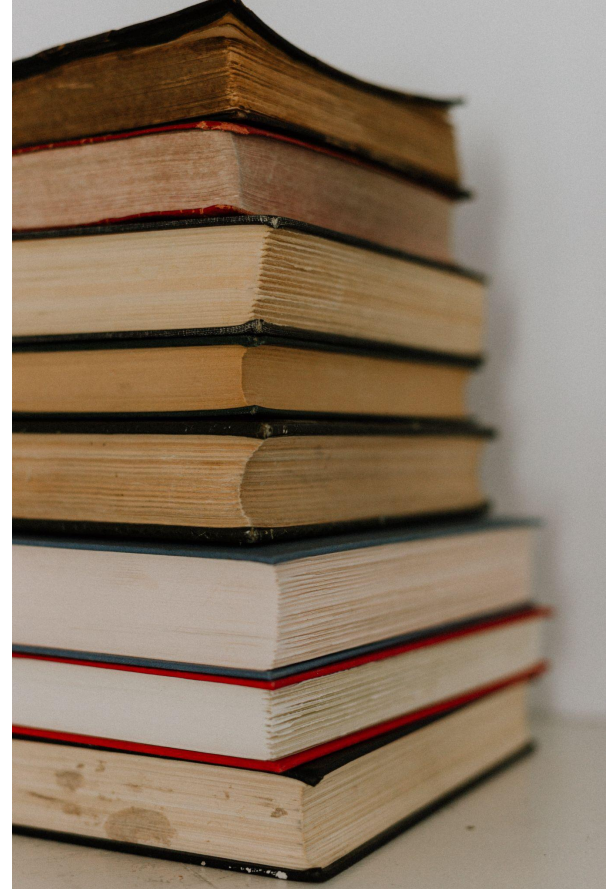
"I wish a politician with no teaching experience would just come in and tell me how to teach," said no teacher ever.



someecards
user card

Patrick King Report

1. Accreditation and regulation of schools
2. Contracts
3. Hours
4. Pay
5. Communication with and treatment of staff
6. Security



How has COVID changed your working life?



INTROVERTS



**UNITE
SEPARATELY
IN YOUR OWN HOMES**

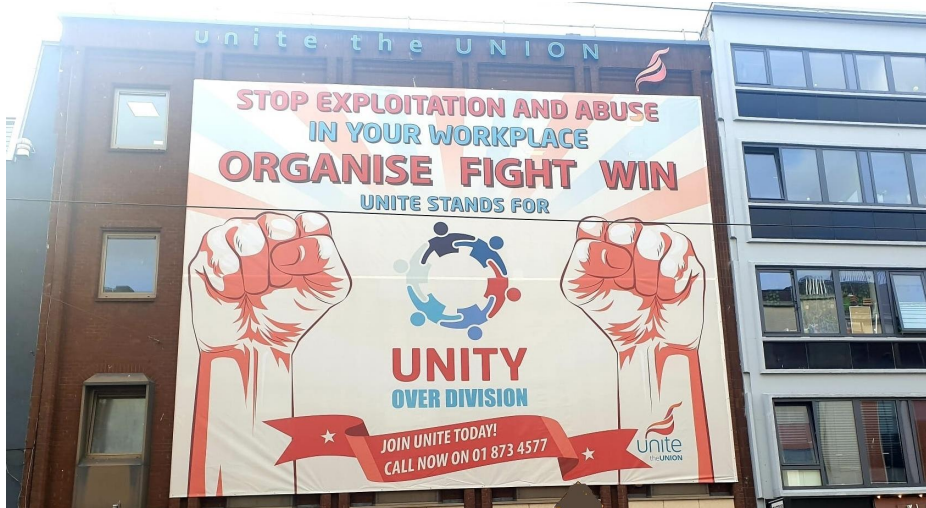
www.mooneytheology.com



**An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais,
Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta**
Department of Further and Higher Education,
Research, Innovation and Science

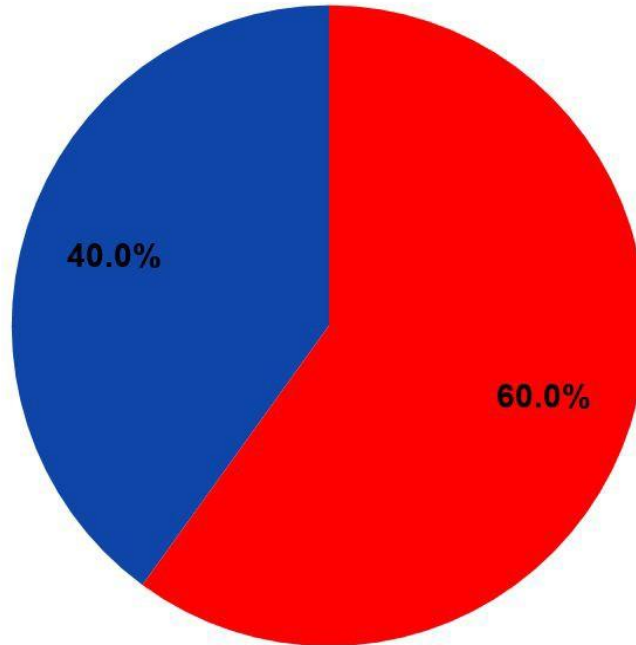


Teachers' Views on Their Work - Surveys 2020



Longevity of employment ELT sector

● Greater than 5 years ● Less than 5 years

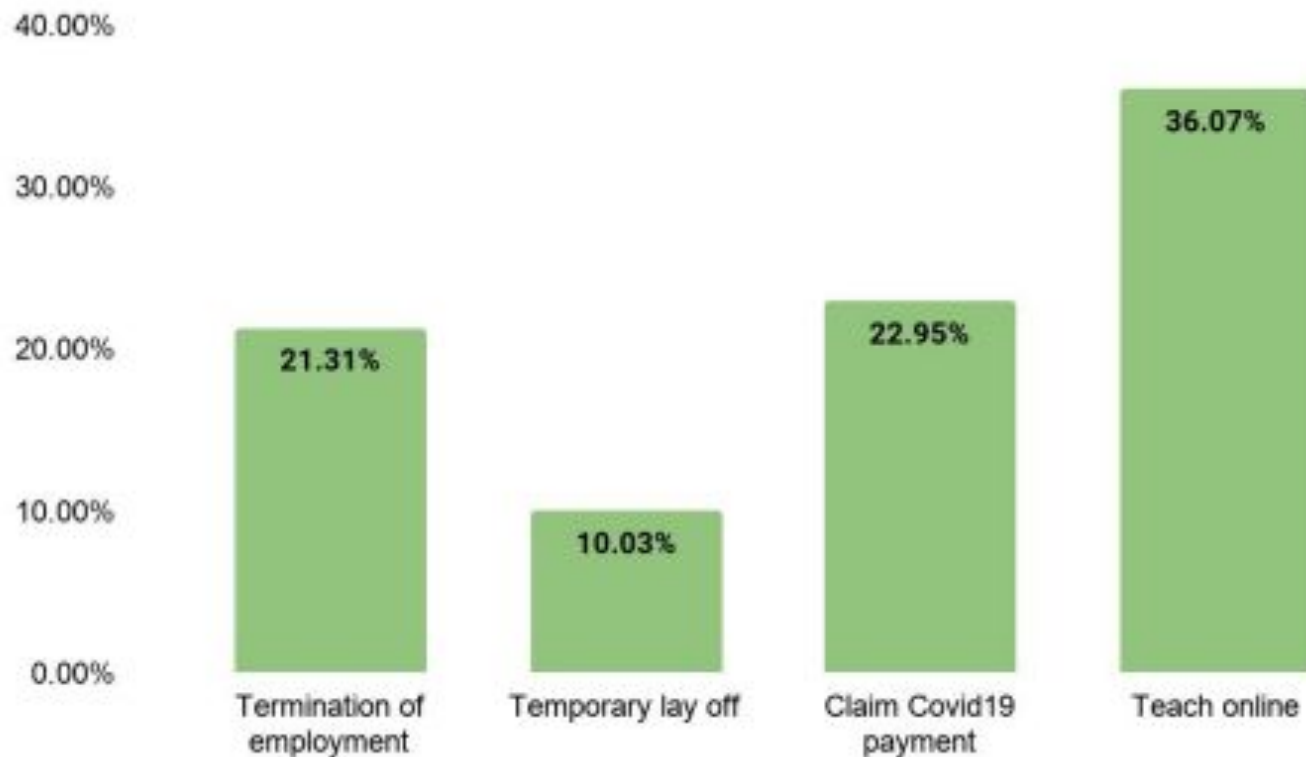


Almost 20 years
experience. Last 7
years in the same
school

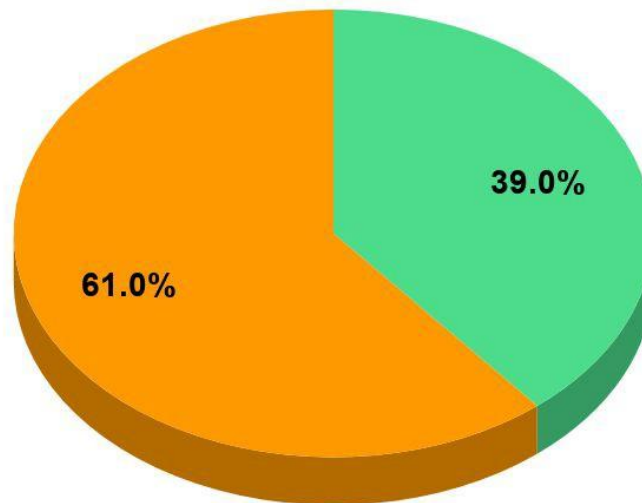
6 years experience -
7 different employers

I have been teaching for 15 years and was
working as a senior teacher...had been feeling
let down by the industry in general...job hunting
for over a year to get out of ESL altogether due
to the way teachers are treated by the private
schools

Arrangements proposed for teachers



Teachers given training to teach online?



● Yes ● No

Worries about whether teachers with underlying conditions would be accommodated

Concerns over the lack of notice given to teachers when told to go back to face to face work

Worries about the inadequacy of many buildings to maintain safe distancing

What department do we fall under?

English Language Students Union



ELSUIreland



Supporting workers & causes





What do unions do?

Trade unions:

- Are an important source of information for employees
- Trade unions work to protect your statutory employment rights
- Trade unions can also negotiate improved conditions of employment with your employer, using collective bargaining
- Protect employees from discrimination
- Represent workers in talks with the government
- Provide free education courses for members on topics such as health and safety, pensions, equality issues, workers' rights and how to assert them
- Campaign on national and international issues

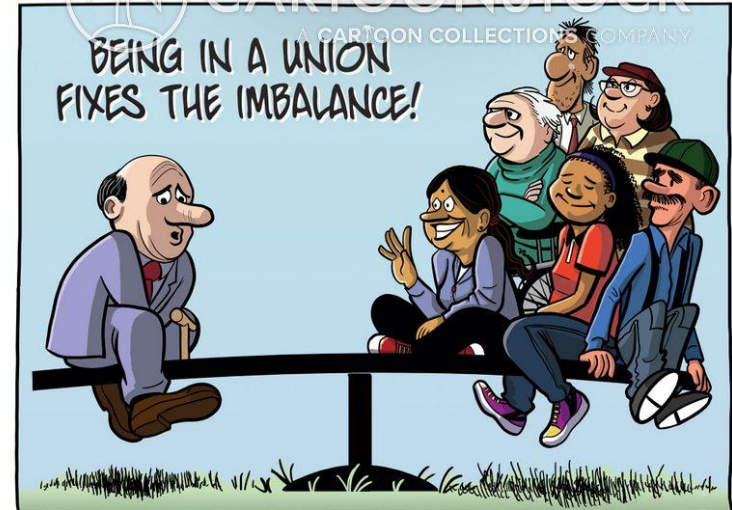
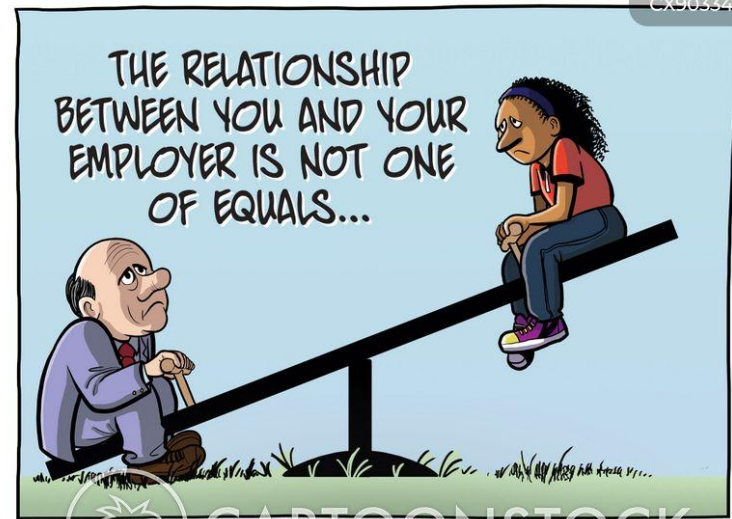
Your rights...

Employees have a right under the Constitution to join a trade union. You can choose whether or not to become a member of a trade union.

You cannot be discriminated against or dismissed from your job because you are a member of a union or for your union activity.

What are the benefits of *collective* action?

- Sense of solidarity and trust with colleagues
- Having a say in improving your working life
- Growth in confidence
- Bringing awareness to issues
- Resolution of issues



What would *you* like to change?

- What could be improved in your workplace? Or in the industry in general?
- What do you and your colleagues feel deeply about?

Support from other ELT professionals

I'm an ex-union rep myself and come from a family of trade unionists, so . . .

I've been saying for years that the industry needs to be more collective and organised, so it's lovely to be able to help out in whatever small way I can.

Amazing work everyone's doing.

Hats off!

[Hugh Dellar](#)

Teacher, teacher trainer and author at LEXICAL LAB and National Geographic Learning



It's good to hear that some progress is being made in terms of teachers' working lives and I wish you all the best in your current campaign. It was in fact talking to teachers in Ireland when I was last there two years ago that really alerted me to the systemic iniquities in employment conditions.

Thanks once again, and you can count on my support.

Best wishes

[Scott Thornbury](#)

Series Editor, Cambridge Handbooks for Language Teachers

Cambridge University Press



Proud
to be an
ELT



You are invited to an
online Open Meeting
of the ELT Branch
on Tuesday 1st March
at 6pm

Useful resources:

<https://eltunite.com/>

<https://unitetheunionireland.org/>

<https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/employment/>

<https://www.workplacerelations.ie/en/>

Thanks for listening!

Join us to make a difference!

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