

## Mass protests in London

by Jane Lawson at DailyStep.com

On Saturday, there was a huge demonstration in London. There were more than 250000 people on the streets. It was the second biggest demonstration ever held in London. The largest was the anti-war march in 2003. You may have seen this recent one on the TV, perhaps you were even there. I would have been there myself, on the peaceful part of the march, but because of my injured leg, I could not go.

The demonstration was a protest against the public spending cuts that are being made by the coalition government in the UK. It was organised by the TUC, the trade Union Congress, which represents workers in mainly public sector jobs, such as teaching and nursing, but the people who protested were actually from all walks of life. The point that the people marching were trying to make is that it is those with the least who are being made to pay the most to cut the huge national deficit that was made much worse when the government had to bail out the banks during the financial crisis. The demonstrators were saying that the government is cutting too much, too soon and too indiscriminately, causing irreversible changes to British communities.

There has been an immediate cut of 25% to the budgets of many government departments and local authorities, meaning that many local facilities such as libraries and leisure centres will have to close down. The march was mostly peaceful, but there was some trouble caused on the day by groups of anarchists who smashed shop windows and sprayed graffiti. The TUC have condemned this violence, as such behaviour detracts from the main message that the marchers were trying to put across.

There was also the occupation of a famous British shop, Fortnum and Mason, by a group called UK Uncut. This group is quite new in the UK, and their simple, effective tactic is to peacefully occupy shops and banks that use tax avoidance methods to get out of paying UK taxes. For example, they have recently occupied banks and turned them into libraries for the day! This means of protest has been both effective and good natured, and now the issue of corporate tax avoidance is most definitely on the Government's agenda.

I will write some level 5 audio lessons that will give you a good idea of both sides of the argument about spending cuts and the country's financial problems. But for today, let's move on from this subject to our audio word study, where we will continue to look at how to use the modal verb WOULD.



To download this free PDF and to hear and download the audio blog, please visit: <https://www.dailystep.com/en/blog/using-would-english-part-2-plus-british-protests>

# DailyStep English

www.DailyStep.com

Speak Good English!

**Register for a free trial of DailyStep Audio Lessons:**

<https://www.dailystep.com/en/user/register>

**Subscribe to regular DailyStep Audio Lessons (22 lessons per month to download or use online):** <https://www.dailystep.com/en/purchase-plans>

**For self-study tips, please visit this page:**

<http://www.dailystep.com/en/content/self-study-tips>

**How to use DailyStep Audio Lessons:**

<http://www.dailystep.com/en/content/how-use-dailystep>

**Read testimonials from DailyStep students:**

<http://www.dailystep.com/en/content/testimonials-0>

**How to use DailyStep in other languages:**

Please change from the English website [www.dailystep.com/en](http://www.dailystep.com/en) to these pages:

**Español:** [www.dailystep.com/es](http://www.dailystep.com/es)

**Français:** [www.dailystep.com/fr](http://www.dailystep.com/fr)

**한국어:** [www.dailystep.com/ko](http://www.dailystep.com/ko)

**Italiano:** [www.dailystep.com/it](http://www.dailystep.com/it)

**日本語:** [www.dailystep.com/ja](http://www.dailystep.com/ja)

Thank you for trying DailyStep Audio Lessons from [DailyStep.com](http://www.dailystep.com). If you have any questions at all, please email me at [jane@dailystep.com](mailto:jane@dailystep.com)