

# “This government’s the best we’ve had”

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- 1. 1981: IRA prisoners in Northern Ireland began a hunger strike demanding to be treated as political prisoners, not criminal prisoners. Thatcher refused, so 10 starved to death. Watch the trailer for *Hunger*, a film about the strike. We hear the voice of Thatcher at the start. What does she say? What else do we see or learn in the trailer?**
2. 1981: Brixton and Liverpool riots
3. 1984-5: Thatcher shuts down the coal mines, so miners go on strike.
4. 1990: Thatcher tries to bring in the poll tax, but millions refuse to pay.

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1. 1981: Northern Ireland Hunger Strike
- 2. 1981: Brixton and Liverpool riots. The Thatcher government saw big conflicts between Afro-Caribbean communities in England and the police. Many black people in England saw Thatcher and her government as being against them.**
3. 1984-5: Thatcher shuts down the coal mines, so miners go on strike.
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2. 1981: Brixton and Liverpool riots.
3. **1984-5: Thatcher attempted to shut down the coal mines, so miners went on strike. A bitter struggle raged all over Britain, many were injured and several were killed. But the miners were defeated and lost their jobs.**
4. 1990: Thatcher tries to bring in the poll tax, but millions refuse to pay.

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3. 1984-5: Thatcher attempts to shut down the coal mines, so miners go on strike.
4. **1990: Thatcher tried to bring in the Poll Tax, but millions refused to pay. There were protests in London and even riots. Thatcher was forced to resign.**

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