The single name's trading day

> **TRADING HALT**
>
> A pause in a single name's trading, imposed by the exchange: for pending news, for a disorderly price move, or for a failure to meet obligations. Halts are the equity day's distinctive interruption - the whole market keeps trading while one name simply stops, sometimes for minutes, sometimes for days.

Every track ends its first module on the shape of the day. The equity day is the gentlest so far - auction, continuous session, auction, no overnight margin sweat for a cash holder - with two interruptions all its own.

The ordinary day

The open auction absorbs the overnight; the continuous session runs with lesson 3's flows and a midday lull; the closing auction concentrates the finale. Liquidity is U-shaped - deepest at both ends - and out-of-hours sessions exist for many markets but carry thin books and wide spreads: prices move there, but conviction about those prices should wait for an auction. A cash owner, notably, can ignore all of it: no daily settlement, no funding timestamp, no forced attention. The day matters when you trade, not while you hold.

Interruption one: the halt

A name can be stopped mid-session - pending a material announcement, after a disorderly move trips a circuit, or because the company failed an obligation. Orders rest, nothing trades, and the resumption is often an auction with a gap. The practical point: a stop-loss cannot execute through a halt, and the resumption price owes nothing to the last trade - the equity version of the gap lesson every track has taught, delivered by referee's whistle rather than by clock.

Interruption two: earnings land outside the day

Results are published deliberately outside trading hours - before the open or after the close - so the reaction happens in an auction, not a scramble.The consequence: earnings risk is gap risk by construction. A holder through results will not get a continuous exit; the next print is the opening cross, wherever it lands.Modules 2 and 4 build on exactly this: reading the gaps, and the standing choice about holding through them - the equity calendar's teeth, quarterly, per name.

Check your understanding

1. Why can a stop-loss not protect a position through a trading halt?

a. Brokers cancel stops during halts

b. Nothing trades during a halt, and the resumption print owes nothing to the last price - the stop executes at wherever trading restarts

c. Halts only affect market orders

Answer: b. A stop is an instruction to transact, and a halted name has nothing to transact against - the same gap lesson every track taught, triggered by the exchange rather than the calendar.

2. Why are earnings published outside trading hours?

a. Regulation requires 24 hours' notice before trading on results

b. So the reaction is absorbed by an auction rather than a mid-session scramble - which also makes earnings risk gap risk by construction

c. To align with analyst schedules

Answer: b. The auction batch-prices the news at one cross. The cost of that orderliness is that holders through results get no continuous exit - the fact module 4's earnings lessons are built on.