



Military English

Lesson: Military Exercises - Reading

Overview:

This lesson involves a reading about joint military exercises between the Australian Defence Force and other international military organisations, and vocabulary for joint exercises.

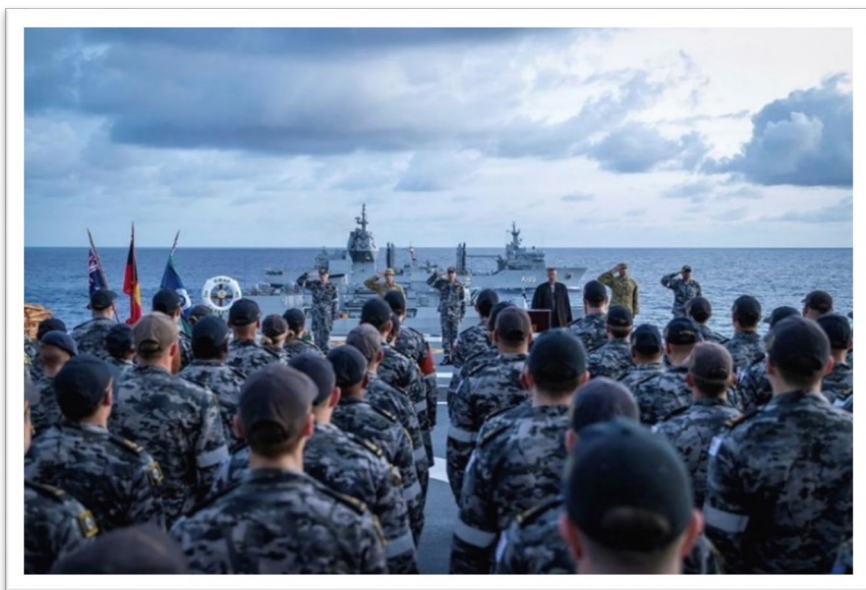
In this lesson, you will:

- ✓ read and find general information in a text
- ✓ learn the meaning of new words
- ✓ use new words in a conversation

Prepare for Reading

1) In pairs or small groups, discuss these questions.

If you have been in a military exercise...	If you have NOT been in a military exercise...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. what is the name of the exercise?b. what did you do there?c. how many days was it?d. was it fun?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">e. which military exercise do you want to join?f. what will you do?g. will a/this military exercise be fun?



Reading

2) Before reading the text, discuss this question in groups.

Military exercises happen all the time, all over the world. Why are military exercises important?

3) The text below explains why military exercises are important. Read the text and check your answers to the question in activity 2.

Do not use a dictionary yet. You are going to learn the meaning of the words in **bold** in exercise 6.

Tip: When you see a new word in English try to:

- not use a dictionary first, but ask a classmate
- use an English-English dictionary
- use the sentence to help you guess the meaning



Exercise KAKADU

Exercise KAKADU is a **military exercise**. It happens every two years. It is the Royal Australian Navy's (RAN) largest exercise but the Royal Australian Air Force also joins in. This year more than 15 ships, 30 aircraft and about 3,000 **personnel** from more than 20 countries will join the exercise. Commander Robert Howard said that Exercise KAKADU is the Navy's most important

international engagement activity. It helps **build relationships** with Australia's **partner countries**. It is an excellent opportunity for different countries to train together. They also prepare for different situations, such as **armed conflict**, **disaster relief** or **humanitarian aid missions**.

For 12 days, soldiers will practise **live-fire**, **aerial drills** and many other activities. Communication is very important in military exercises. Each of the countries will have **military interpreters** to make sure everyone understands each other.

But training won't just be in the sea or sky. Personnel will take part in **briefings**, meetings and presentations, too. And at the end of each day, the Navy is planning some **downtime activities**, for example cultural events and sporting competitions.

4) Now read again and complete this quick fact sheet.

Exercise KAKADU – Quick facts:

- How long? _____ days
- Number of personnel: _____
- Number of ships: _____
- Number of countries: _____
- Number of airplanes: _____

5) Read the text again and answer true or false.

- Exercise KAKADU happens every year.
- Only the Royal Australian Navy takes part in Exercise KAKADU.
- Exercise KAKADU is the largest military exercise of the Royal Australian Navy.
- Exercise KAKADU will only have training at sea and in the air.
- Exercise KAKADU helps the countries prepare for many situations.

Learning Military Vocabulary

6) The words in **bold** in the text are important military vocabulary that you should learn to use. Match the military words on the left to their definitions on the right. Look at the example.

exercise Kakadu is a military exercise (n)		a. to work with other people or countries in a positive and friendly way
an international engagement activity (n)		b. when one group uses weapons to fight another group
it helps to build relationships (v)		c. a meeting to share information, give instructions or discuss a situation
with our partner countries (n)		d. training with real weapons and real bullets
situations such as armed conflict (n)		e. training exercises using aeroplanes
situations such as disaster relief (n)		f. free time activities that are fun
situations such as humanitarian aid missions (n)		g. working with people from different countries
training will be in the form of live-fire (n)		h. to help people during difficult times, for example, after a natural disaster (a flood, tsunami, etc.) or in a war. This help can be e.g. bringing food, water, and medicine to them.
soldiers will practise aerial drills (n)		i. when a lot of military personnel train together to prepare for a real situation, for example, a war
Each country will have military interpreters (n)		j. military personnel who help people to understand each other when they speak different languages
a military briefing (n)	c	k. friendly countries that often work together
downtime activities (n)		l. when people help others after a natural disaster like a tsunami, flood, etc.

Example: a military **briefing** = c. a meeting to share information, give instructions, or discuss a situation

7) Now let's listen to the words practised in this lesson. Listen and repeat.

8) Now complete these sentences with some of the words from exercise 6.

- a. A _____ is when soldiers practise for war or helping others.
- b. During the exercise, soldiers may do _____ training with real bullets. Before this type of training, soldiers usually have a _____ so that everyone is safe and knows what to do. If this is in a different language, a _____ who speaks your language will be there to make sure you understand the instructions.
- c. In a military exercise, personnel may also practise how to help people during a natural disaster or war. This is practice for a _____.
- d. Personnel work very hard in military exercises. At the end of the day, there are _____ activities, so everyone can relax and have some fun.

Practice

9) Here is some information on another large military exercise. Read the instructions below.

- **Student A, stay on page 4. Student B go to page 5.**
- Your partner has the information you need to complete your sheet.
- You have information that your partner needs to complete his/her sheet.
- Ask questions to your partner to complete your sheet.
- You ask one question, then your partner asks you a question, and so on.
- For example: A: *Where did it happen?*
B: *It happened in _____.*



EXERCISE KOMODO

- a. Where it happened: _____
- b. When it happened: 2018
- c. How many days: _____
- d. How many partner countries: 35
- e. Which services: _____
- f. Which main activities: live-fire, aerial drills, disaster relief
- g. Number of personnel: _____
- h. How many ships: more than 50

10) Here is some information on another large military exercise. Read the instructions below.

STUDENT B

- **Student A, go to page 4. Student B stay on page 5.**
- Your partner has the information you need to complete your sheet.
- You have information that your partner needs to complete his/her sheet.
- Ask questions to your partner to complete your sheet.
- You ask one question, then your partner asks you a question, and so on.
- For example: B: *When did it happen?*

A: *It happened in* _____.



EXERCISE KOMODO

a. Where it happened: Indonesia (Lombok)

b. When it happened: _____

c. How many days: 6

d. How many partner countries: _____

e. Which services: Army, Navy, Air Force

f. Which main activities: _____

g. Number of personnel: about 4,000

h. How many ships: _____



- Watch this video about Exercise KAKADU:

Type on YouTube: [Exercise KAKADU 2022 Sea Phase](#) or scan the QR Code:



- This lesson links with → Lesson – Disaster Relief; Lesson – Humanitarian Aid.

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