



Military English

Vocabulary Builder: Types of Military Aircraft - Fixed Wing

TEACHER'S COPY

Overview:

This worksheet presents vocabulary related to types of fixed wing military aircraft.

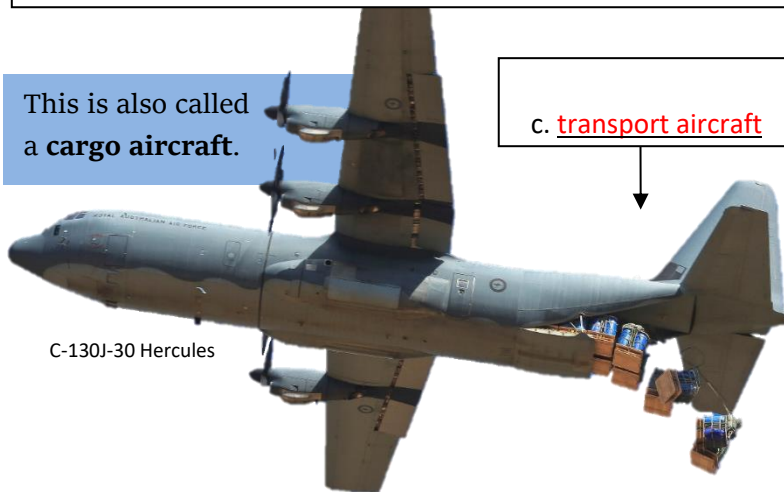
In this lesson, you will:

- ✓ use vocabulary related to fixed wing military aircraft.

1) Label the pictures of different types of **aircraft**. Use the words in the box below.

training aircraft // fighter aircraft // UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) // transport aircraft

This is also called a **cargo aircraft**.



C-130J-30 Hercules

c. **transport aircraft**

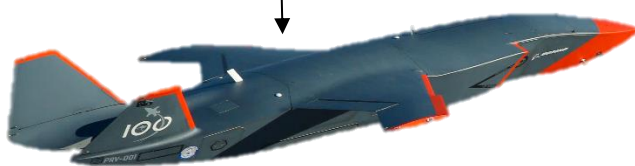
aircraft (plural: aircraft) = a flying machine. There are 2 types of aircraft; fixed wing aircraft = airplanes; rotary wing aircraft = helicopters

d. **training aircraft**



Hawk 127

a. **UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle)**



MQ-28 Ghost Bat

Give some time for students to do this task, which continues on the next page, before asking them to check answers with a partner. Go over the text box above: let them know the plural form is aircraft (not aircrafts). Do some quick drill practice of this word.

F-35A Lightning II



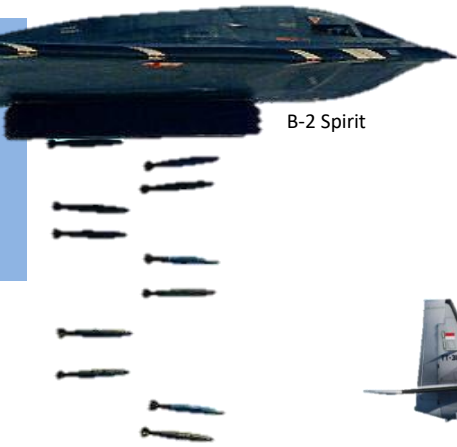
b. **fighter aircraft**

2) Continue to label the pictures. Use the words in the box below.

airborne early warning and control (AEW&C) // bomber // maritime patrol aircraft // light attack aircraft // tanker aircraft // electronic warfare aircraft

This is a **stealth aircraft**.
It is very hard for an enemy radar to see it.

e. bomber



B-2 Spirit

This is also called a **ground attack aircraft**.
Australia does not have this type of aircraft.
Pictured here is an aircraft from the Indonesian Air Force.



EMB 314
Super Tucano

h. light attack aircraft

f. electronic warfare aircraft



EA-18G Growler

g. tanker aircraft

This aircraft can also carry a lot of people.



A330 MRTT

This is also a surveillance aircraft. **Surveillance aircraft** are used for watching what's happening over an area. They have cameras, computers and other equipment.



P-8A Poseidon

i. maritime patrol aircraft



E-7A Wedgetail

j. airborne early warning and control (AEW&C)


Note on task one and two. If students are confused about some aircraft looking similar, explain the following. **TASK 1** - the main difference between a fighter aircraft (item b) and a trainer aircraft (item d) is that fighters are usually larger and faster, carry only one crew (the pilot) and have more sophisticated equipment such as radars. **TASK 2** - the aircraft in item f looks like a fighter, but the pods under the wings is what differentiates them. These pods are not weapons; they are sensors and radars that enable it to carry out its missions. The aircraft in letter i, is different to the one in letter j. A maritime patrol aircraft's mission is to find and hunt down enemy vessels. The one in letter j is a command centre that keeps track of where all airplanes are so commanders can make better decisions. Also, the large radar mounted on top of the fuselage of aircraft in letter j is the main visual difference in these two aircraft.

3) Let's practise saying the words from exercises one and two. Listen and repeat. Play recording and get students to repeat after each repetition. Then drill all items again; first with all the class, then with smaller and smaller groups (use gestures to show them who is to repeat), until only one student is left. Correct any issues they have with pronunciation.

4) What is each aircraft used for? Write the letter next to the type of aircraft, then check your answers with a partner. Ask students to read each blue box and select the correct type of aircraft. If necessary, do letter A with them as an example. Get them to check with a partner, then ask students individually to give their answer out loud to the whole class.

- transport (or cargo) aircraft: E
- electronic warfare aircraft: D
- fighter aircraft: A
- tanker: C
- light (or ground) attack aircraft: B

A This aircraft has a lot of weapons and is usually used to destroy enemy aircraft. They are smaller and very fast.




B This is a smaller aircraft used to attack targets on the ground, usually enemy vehicles like tanks and trucks, and buildings.




D This aircraft has sensors and radars that confuse enemy aircraft. It makes it difficult for enemy aircraft to attack.



C This aircraft is like a flying fuel tank that can refuel other aircraft in the air.



E This aircraft is like a flying truck. It has a lot of space to carry large and heavy objects. It can also carry a lot of soldiers.



5) What about your country? What types of fixed-wing aircraft do army, navy and air force have? Discuss with a partner. So that students know what to do, ask one student (a more fluent one is best) to name a type of aeroplane in use in his/her armed forces. Make sure the whole class can hear him/her. As a follow up question, you can ask the same student which service (army, air force, navy) the aeroplane they just mentioned is from. Now ask students to do the task with a partner, or in small groups. Give enough discussion time, then ask 1 or 2 random students to say which aeroplane their group came up with (and perhaps which service these are from). Correct pronunciation as needed.

- This lesson links with → Vocabulary Builder – Military Vehicles
Vocabulary Builder – Parts of an Aircraft

© Commonwealth of Australia 2023

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth),

no part may be reproduced by any process without prior written permission from the Department of Defence.