



# Military English

## Lesson: Parachute Training – Reading

### Overview:

This lesson uses the topic of parachute training to give practice in reading and the vocabulary around this topic.

### In this lesson, you will:

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

### Prepare for Reading

- 1) Let's find out how much you know about parachute training. Talk to a partner.
  - a. What do you know about parachute training?
  - b. What problems can happen when
    - paratroopers are falling through the air
    - paratroopers land on the ground
  - c. What types of jump are included in the training?
  - d. Would you like to jump out of an airplane? Why?

a **paratrooper** (n) -



to **land** (v) – when the paratrooper arrives on the ground



## Reading

2) Read the text about parachute training below quickly.

Check your answers from exercise one. How much did you know about parachute training?

Tip: When your teacher asks you to 'read quickly' – the aim at this time, is NOT to understand everything but to get a general overall understanding of the main idea of the text(s). Look at pictures and headings carefully as these things can help you. Run your eyes across the words; try NOT to stop reading.

New Message — ↗ ✕

To [domingos@army.gov.au](mailto:domingos@army.gov.au) Cc Bcc

Subject Parachute training

Hi Domingos,

You wanted to know what life is like at the Parachuting School, so let me tell you a bit about it.

Before we jump from an **aircraft**, we do a lot of training on the ground. For example, we learn how to **exit** and how to land safely in a parachute **landing fall**. When we start practising aircraft jumps, we have to be careful of wind **drift**, which can take us away from the **drop zone (DZ)**. Another problem we learn to solve is **parachute malfunctions**.

In the Australian Defence Force (ADF), we have **static line** training at an **altitude** between 800 feet and 1,000 feet. Paratroopers train on different types of parachute, including a **reserve parachute**.

Then there is **free fall** training. In this type of training, we jump from an aircraft from up to 12,000 feet. This is called **High Altitude Parachute Operations (HAPO)**. Also, we sometimes jump from aircraft up to 25,000 feet.

We work with **riggers**. They are the people who prepare the parachutes. Riggers also do parachute training.

I hope this gives you an idea of parachute training. Call me if you want more information. Good luck in your training!

Kind regards,

Amir


Send ✳ A 📎 🔗 😊 ⚠ 🖼 ✍ ⋮ 🗑

- 3) Read the text again and answer the questions. Mark the sentences true or false.
- a. Wind drift can be a problem for paratroopers.  
TRUE                      FALSE
  - b. The ADF only uses one model of parachute.  
TRUE                      FALSE
  - c. The highest paratroopers jump from is 12,000 feet.  
TRUE                      FALSE
  - d. Riggers don't practice parachute jumping.  
TRUE                      FALSE

### Learning Military Vocabulary

- 4) 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 on tables one and two (on the next page). Look at the example.

Table one

before we jump from an <b>aircraft</b> (n)		a. the place (on the ground) where paratroopers land
we learn how to <b>exit</b> (v)		b. 
we have to be careful of wind <b>drift</b> (n)	<b>f</b>	c. the way paratroopers should land, so that they don't get hurt
It can take us away from the <b>drop zone</b> (DZ) (n)		d. when there is a problem with a parachute, it doesn't open properly
we have to be careful of <b>parachute malfunctions</b> (n)		e. to jump out of an aircraft
a parachute <b>landing fall</b> (n)		<b>f. the wind that pushes the paratrooper away from where they should land</b>

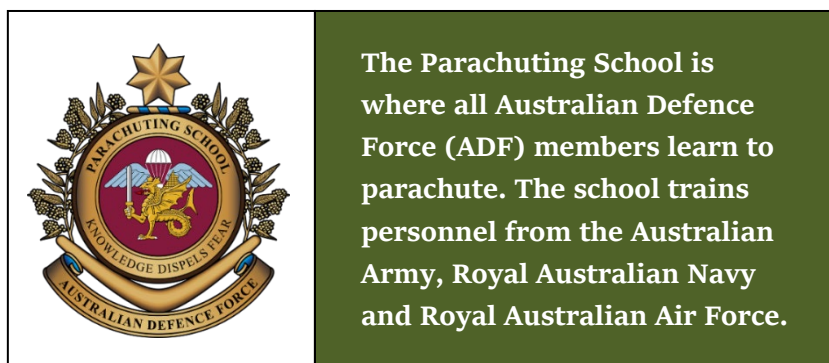





Table two

<b>static line</b> (n)	g. when paratroopers jump from very high up
training at an <b>altitude</b> between 800 feet and 1,000 feet (n)	h. the extra parachute needed in an emergency
<b>reserve parachute</b> (n)	i. falling from an aircraft before opening the parachute 
<b>free fall</b> (n)	j. height, distance upwards
This is called <b>High Altitude Parachute Operations</b> (HAPO) (n)	k. the people who get the parachutes ready 
we work with <b>riggers</b> (n)	l. a line that opens the parachute automatically when a person jumps from an aircraft 

5) Now let's practise saying the words. Listen and repeat.

6) Now use words from exercise four to complete the sentences correctly.

- a. Two things paratroopers think about when falling are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Paratroopers know how to \_\_\_\_\_ from different aircraft.
- c. Paratroopers use the \_\_\_\_\_ if there is a problem with the main parachute.
- d. The people that prepare parachutes are called \_\_\_\_\_. They have a very important job.
- e. The \_\_\_\_\_ opens the parachute soon after the paratrooper exits the aircraft. It's usually yellow.

### Practice

7) Talk to your partners and discuss the following questions

- a. What are some positives and negatives about parachute training?
- b. Do you think parachute training is harder than other training you have done?
- c. Do you think parachute training is important for the military? Why?

- For more practice with the words you've learned here, scan the QR code.



- This lesson links with → Vocabulary Builder – Parachute Training

- Watch this video. Type on YouTube [ADF Parachuting School delivering personnel parachute training](#) or scan the QR code.

