



# Military English

## Vocabulary Builder: Facilities on an Army Base

**TEACHER'S COPY**

### Overview:

This worksheet presents vocabulary related to the places and facilities on an army base.

### In this lesson, you will:

- ✓ learn and use vocabulary related to facilities on an army base.

**BEFORE YOU HAND OUT THE WORKSHEETS** - To set the context, ask ss to work in groups of 2-3 and name as many places (= facilities) on an army base as they can. Before they start, ask the whole class for an example (ans – any facility e.g. mess, accommodation, gym, etc. Give ss 2min. Get feedback (FB) as a whole class: ask a few random ss to give their ans. Now hand out the worksheets.

- Pages one and two detail the main **facilities** of most military bases.

Label the pictures. Use the words from the box.

Give ss 2min. Monitor and check their ans. If ss have the wrong ans, instead of giving them the correct ans, just say the ans is wrong, and let them correct it on their own. For FB, ask a few random ss for the ans. Praise correct ans. Now explain the meaning of the words in the box on the right. Tell ss these places are also called 'facilities'. Ask: Is the health centre a facility? (y); Is the mess a facility? (y); Are we on a military base now? (ans will vary, but probably yes. If not give an example of a military base nearby); What are other facilities on a military base? (ans will vary).

**facilities** (n) – buildings, equipment or services  
 a **military base** (n) – the place where military personnel work, live and train



a. **health centre** Ask CCQs: 1. If you're sick where do you go to see a doctor or nurse? (health centre); 2. Can anyone go to the health centre? (no, only military personnel [at least in Australia]).



b. **mess** Ask CCQs: 1. On a base, where do you have your meals? (the mess); Do you sleep and have a shower in the mess? (no).



c. **pool**

health centre // mess // pool





d. chapel Ask CCQs: 1. Do you pray in a chapel? (y [teacher, use gestures to explain the word 'pray']); 2. Are Muslims and Buddhists welcome at a chapel on an Australian base? (y).



f. office



e. accommodation Ask CCQs: 1. Is this where air force personnel sleep when they live on base? (y)



g. gym

gym // accommodation // office // chapel

↓ As an extension reading activity, write these Qs (not the ans) on the board: 1. How many Army bases are there in Australia? (ans: 53); 2. How many people work for the Australian Army? (about 28,000); 3. What types of equipment does the Australian Army have? (M1A1 Abrams tanks, Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicles, attack and transport helicopters). Give ss 2min to read the text below and answer the Qs. While you monitor, note three ss who had correct ans. For FB, ask those ss with correct ans to give their ans to the whole class, one ans per student. Now take the opportunity to teach the word 'personnel'. Ask: 1. Is personnel the people in uniform in the navy, army or air force? (y); Are you military personnel? (probably yes); Is a civilian military personnel? (not in Australia).

## The Australian Army

The Australian Army protects Australia by land, helps in emergencies and supports peacekeeping missions around the world.

Here's a snapshot of the Australian Army:

- 53 army bases across Australia;
- 28,000+ personnel, including
- 15,000+ reservists;
- It operates vehicles such as the M1A1 Abrams tanks, Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicles, attack and transport helicopters.



- 2) Here are other facilities on an army base. Match the words in the box to each picture. Give ss 5min to do this. Monitor and help if needed. Don't give correct ans when ss have a wrong ans. Simply say the ans is incorrect and let them work to find the correct ans. While you monitor, note the correct ans by different ss. For FB, ask the ss with correct ans to give their ans to the whole class. Then ask the CCQs for the items below to make sure ss have understood the concept of some of the items.

firing range // maintenance workshop // armoury // obstacle course // training area



a. **armoury** Ask CCQs: 1. What is the person holding? (ans will vary, but elicit 'weapon', or say it to the class if no one says it). 2. Do you keep weapons in the armoury? (y); 2. What kinds of weapons can you find in the armoury? (small arms e.g. pistols, shotguns, rifles, machine guns); 3. Can anyone go inside the armoury? (no, it's usually locked and only a few people are allowed in); 3. Do you clean and fix weapons at the armoury? (y).



d. **maintenance workshop** Ask CCQs: 1. Is there a lot of tools in a maintenance workshop? (y); 2. Do you fix things in a maintenance workshop? (y); Can you buy things in a workshop? (n. A workshop isn't like a shop/store).



b. **training area** Ask CCQs: 1. Is this where soldiers train for real-life situations? (y); 2. Do soldiers use weapons in a training area? (y); 3. Do you do exercise to get fit in a training area? (n).



e. **obstacle course** Ask CCQs: 1. Do soldiers use the obstacle course to get fit? (y); 2. Do soldiers use the obstacle course to work as a team? (y); 3. Do soldiers take weapons to an obstacle course? (sometimes, but they don't usually fire the weapons).



c. **firing range** Ask CCQs: 1. Is this where soldiers train shooting? (y); 2. What kinds of weapons can you take to a firing range? (from handguns to tanks); 3. Is a firing range a small area, or a large area? (it can be small, if it's a firing range for small arms e.g. pistols, rifles, etc [teacher, point to the picture on the right and say that is a firing range for small arms, so it's usually a smaller place], but it can be a large area for tanks, for example [teacher, point to the larger picture here and say this is a firing range for artillery (larger weapons)]; 4. Is there another name for firing range? (y. Shooting range).



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

Play the recording and ask students to repeat. Play it again and select a few random students to repeat individually. Tell ss the main stressed syllable (or word, in compound nouns) is underlined in the vocabulary items in tasks 1 and 2 to help with pronunciation. Ask ss to put the worksheets away while they listen – they will notice the sounds better if they only listen.

4) Do you remember the words for facilities on an army base? Write the name of the facility under the picture and check with your partners when you finish. Check your answers and spelling on page 2 after you finish. This is a revision task using different pictures to the ones on pages 1-3. Give ss 3min. Monitor and provide help if needed. Tell ss if they want an extra challenge, not to look on pages 1-3. For weaker ss, tell them to look in pages 103 to help them. For FB, ask them to check ans in pairs, then check with the whole class.



a. firing range



c. maintenance workshop



b. training area



d. armoury Ask CCQ: 1. Is this an army soldier? (no, he is in the navy. He's wearing a Royal Australian Navy uniform); 2. Do navy bases have an armoury? (y. Any military base that has small arms (e.g. pistols or the assault rifles pictured above) will have an armoury.



e. obstacle course

- 5) Work with a partner. Play a game. When ss know if they are student A or B, ask them to go to their page. Tell students not to look on the other page. Give them 1min to read the instructions. Then, ask ICQs: 1. Are you going to look on the other page? (n); 2. Are you going to ask your partner these Qs [point to the Qs on the worksheet so everyone can see]? (y); 3. Does student A ask one Q, then student B ask another Q? (y); 4. Do you put a tick here if your partner gives the correct ans [show where to put the ticks on the worksheet so everyone can see]? (y); 5. What if your partner gives you an incorrect ans? (the other student gives the correct ans. No tick); 6. When it's your turn to ans, are you going to give complete ans? (y).

**Student A, stay on this page. Student B, turn to the next page.**

STUDENT A

- This is a competition. The student with the most correct answers wins.
- Ask your partner the questions below. If they give the correct answer, it's one point for him/her.
- Take turns. You ask one question, then your partner asks you one question, and so on.
- When you're answering, give complete answers.

For example: A: *Where do you go if you're sick?*

B: *If you're sick, you go to the \_\_\_\_\_.*

Read these questions to student B.	If student B gives these answers, give them one point.	Put a tick (✓) in each space below if student A answers correctly.
Where do you go if you are sick?	health centre	
Where do soldiers practise special skills in the field?	training area	
Where can you swim?	pool	
Where do you practice shooting?	firing range	
Where are the weapons in a military base?	armoury	
Where do soldiers sleep?	accommodation	
Total:		

STUDENT B

- This is a competition. The student with the most correct answers is the winner.
- Ask your partner the questions below. If they give the correct answer, it's one point for him/her.
- Take turns. You ask one question, then your partner asks you one question, and so on.
- When you're answering, give complete answers.

For example: A: *Where can you eat lunch on an army base?*

B: *You can eat lunch at the \_\_\_\_\_.*

Read these questions to student A.	If student A gives these answers, give them one point.	Put a tick (✓) in each space below if student A answers correctly.
Where can you eat lunch on an army base?	mess	
Where do personnel work at desks in front of computers?	office	
Where can I pray on a base?	chapel	
Where do personnel fix equipment such as tanks and trucks?	maintenance workshop	
Where do soldiers run, climb and jump?	obstacle course	
Where can I get fit?	gym	
Total:		

- This Lesson links with → Lesson: Snapshot of the Australian Army

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