



Level: CEFR A2 / ADFELPS 4
and above

Military English

Lesson: What's in Your Webbing? - Listening

Overview:

This lesson will keep practicing words from the vocabulary builder "What's in your webbing?". It will help you practice listening to and understanding the words and to use them in speaking.

In this lesson, you will:

- ✓ listen for some general and specific information in a text
- ✓ learn the meaning of new words
- ✓ use new words in sentences
- ✓ talk about useful items you can put in your webbing

TEACHER'S COPY

Teacher's notes are indicated by this: **TN →**

TN → It's best if VB – What's in Your Webbing is taught before this lesson as many of the vocabulary items in this VB will appear in this lesson. Once you have done this, you could start this lesson by playing 'Quizlet live' with the vocabulary from the VB. You will need to be logged into Quizlet for you to start the game as a teacher. Here is a [video](#) on how the game works - Here is the [link](#) to the Quizlet from the VB.

Prepare for Listening

1) Look at the pictures of soldiers **surviving** in the jungle. Talk to your friends.

- a. What are they doing in the pictures?
- b. What **gear** is useful for the activities?
- c. What do you take with you when you go into the jungle?

survive (v) – to live through a dangerous situation.

TN → Setting up the activity. Ask a student (S) to read the instructions for the activity aloud. Ask if anyone knows (or can guess) what 'surviving' and 'gear' means. Elicit/pre-teach the correct answer.

TN → Activity 1 - This is to get students (Ss) to start thinking about the topic. Give Ss 5 mins to discuss in pairs. For feedback (FB), ask 1-2 random Ss what they discussed with their partner. POSSIBLE ANSWERS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT – Just some ideas for you to see the idea of the exercise. No need to insist on these answers! Encourage students to use their creativity and encourage all logical guesses.

Drinking water	water purification tablet; lighter/matches (to make a fire), canteen, cup etc
Staying warm, keeping animals away, sleeping	Lighter, matches, fire starters etc
Eating/preparing food (they have been finding food in the jungle)	Knife, shovel to dig up roots etc
Navigating	Compass; GPS; maps, needle in a cup, the sun etc
Skinning a wallaby (She's been hunting)	Knife/ multitool; gun or trap to kill the wallaby etc



- 2) These are words we will need for the listening. Look at the pictures and match as many as you can with words from the box.

a vest // a belt // silver // batteries // jungle // the dark // signal // navigate // secret

TN → Have Ss work in pairs or small groups to match the pictures and vocabulary. Encourage guessing if Ss are unsure! The most important thing is that they have looked at all the words and all the pictures before they listen and check.



a. a belt



b. secret



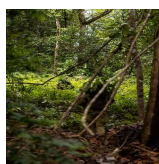
c. batteries



d. the dark



e. compass



f. jungle



g. signal



h. silver



i. a vest

- 3) Listen, check, and repeat.

TRANSCRIPT – a) belt b) secret c) batteries d) the dark e) compass f) jungle g) signal h) silver i) vest

TN → Depending on the level of your class, play the recording 1-2 times. When Ss listen and repeat, you might like to spend time on “vest” In Thai, Khmer and Lao, /v/ and /w/ sounds can get confused. Make sure students are saying /v/ not /w/ for vest.

- 4) Discuss these questions with your partner to practice the new words.

TN → Give Ss a time limit of 5-10 minutes. This section acts as a Concept Checking Questions (CCQ) stage. Monitor and encourage Ss to ask questions if they need help. By doing CCQs this way, the Ss have more time to talk and only ask about vocabulary items that they actually find confusing. It is also a way of keeping the lesson more student centred.

- Can you **navigate** using a compass?
- Do you use hand **signals** in your job? If yes, show your partner some of the hand signals you use and say what they mean.
- Do you ever do training in **the dark**? Do you like it?
- Silver is a metal and a colour in English. Can you see anything that is **silver** in the room?
- Can you think of 5 things that need **batteries**? When was the last time you got angry about something having a flat **battery**?
- Do you ever wear a **belt** or a **vest** for work? Why?

Listening

- 5) Private Annie is going to talk about five things she has in her webbing to help her survive in the jungle. Before you listen, guess which 5 things she has in her webbing. Check with a partner. Do you have the same ideas?

TN → First, allow Ss 2-3 minutes to discuss. For FB, ask 1-2 random Ss what they guessed.



- 6) Listen and check. Tick the items PTE Annie takes to the jungle.

TN → You can see the answers above with a tick. ✓

- 7) Listen again and complete the sentences with one word from the listening. The first one has been done for you as an example.

TN → Depending on the level of your class, you may like to listen 1 or 2 times. Before you listen, ask students to read the questions and check any unfamiliar vocabulary. Ask them also to guess what goes in the gap. By doing this, you are checking students understand the question and get their brains ready to listen. Encourage student to use context clues. For instance, "Webbing is a...." Because there is 'a' we know the next word must be a singular countable noun here. Have students compare before you check answers as a class.

- Annie has the rank of private in the Australian army.
- Webbing is a belt and vest that you can add pouches to.
- Webbing helps soldiers get things they need quickly.
- It is very important to fill the canteen in hot weather to stay hydrated.
- The canteen sits inside of the canteen cup.
- It is important for the radio to have a full battery before you take it anywhere.
- You can navigate using a compass without a battery.
- Ratpacks are a form of food supply that usually don't need to be cooked.
- You can use a torch to signal for help.
- Private Annie has some secret lollies in her last pouch.



Learning military vocabulary

8) The words in **bold** are important military vocabulary that you should learn. Match them to their definitions on the right. Look at the example and write the answers in the middle column.

TN → Ask Ss to match the words in bold on the left with the definition on the right. Encourage students to guess if they don't know. If this activity type is unfamiliar to students, do one or two together as a class. ICQ: On the column on the right, what does (n) mean? (noun); What does (v) mean? (verb); Which word do you need to match? (the bold one). Allow 5-10 minutes for students to complete the activity. Have Ss compare their answers with their partners and discuss differences to see if they can agree. don't check ans at this point. The recording in the next task will give a chance for Ss to check the ans.

Table 1











webbing is a special belt, a vest, and set of pouches	f	a. (n) equipment soldiers use - compass, canteen, multitool, cam paint, magazines etc
gear to survive	a	b. (n) a water bottle with a special shape to make it easy to carry 
set of pouches	g	c. (v) to talk or to send messages
Number 1 is my canteen	b	d. (n) they are used to send and receive messages 
a canteen cup	e	e. (n) a cup that fits on the bottom of a canteen 
Radios help us to communicate	d	f. (n) worn by soldiers to help them carry gear and to get to important things quickly 
Radios help us to communicate	c	g. (n) little bags that can be attached to webbing to carry things. 


Table 2

always navigate with a compass	k	h. (v) to find the right way to go. You can use a compass for this	
Ratpacks are food supplies	l	i. (n) an emergency signal = . . . _ _ _ . . .	
A torch for seeing in the dark	n	j. (n) a device for finding direction; the needle always points north	
Gear to survive	m	k. (n) a Global Positioning System helps soldiers to navigate	
sending an SOS signal	i	l. (n) food soldiers carry when they're out field	
A GPS doesn't always work well in the thick jungle	k	m. (v) to live through a difficult situation	
navigate with a compass	h	n. (n) a small light	

9)  Listen and check your answers.

TN → Play the recording so Ss can check their ans to task 8. To check Ss have understood the meaning of the items above, ask CCQs as much as you think Ss need them. You don't have to CCQ every word (unless students have really struggled!) Maybe choose 3-4 that you worry Ss might find hard. Here are some ideas, but use your own if you like!

1. What can I keep my gear in? (Webbing, pouches); 2. What can I use to carry water? (Canteen); 3. What can I use to communicate? (Radio); 4. What can I eat out of and drink out of? (Canteen cup); 5. Bip bip bip beeeep beeeep beeeep bip bip bip (SOS signal); 6. What can I use to see in the dark? (torch); 7. What can I eat? (rations/ratpak); 8. What can I navigate with? (Compass/GPS); 9. What do you do in the jungle? (survive); 10. When you survive, do you live or do you die? (live).

10)  Now, let's practise saying the words. Listen and repeat. Look at where the stress is underlined in words that have more than one syllable.

TN → Tell Ss they're going to practise pronunciation. Ask 'Why are some syllables underlined in those words?' (they show the stressed syllable in words that have more than one syllable). Ask the whole class to repeat after the recording, paying attention to the stress. Then play a second time, but ask individual Ss to repeat. Correct their pronunciation if needed, especially in regards to word stress. You can play the recording 1-2 times depending on the strength of your class. Note that this is the same recording as task 9. Ss don't need to repeat the letter after the vocabulary item.

Practice

11) Talk to your friend. Did PTE Annie choose good gear? Why/not?

TN → Give Ss 2-3 minutes to discuss the question. Monitor and see if you can find some people who disagree to share their ideas to get some different ideas and critical thinking in circulation.

12) Write down what 5 pieces of gear **you** would take in your webbing to survive in the jungle. You can use words from today's lesson and your own imagination. Think about why they would be useful. Ask your friends or teacher for any words you need.

TN → Allow students 5-10 minutes to make their list. Help them with vocabulary as needed. Encourage creativity! They don't have to just take words from today's vocab.

Piece of gear	Why it is useful
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	



Officers from the Royal Brunei Army and Australian Army during Exercise Mallee Bull's jungle survival training, in Brunei. Nov 2022.

Stand up and interview 3 other students. Ask them about their webbing. Do you agree with their ideas?

TN → Encourage Ss to talk to students they don't normally talk to. Allow 5-10 minutes for this activity. Make notes of vocabulary and grammar mistakes that you hear, but don't interrupt the students to correct them very much. At the end of the class, write 3-4 repeated mistakes in sentences on the whiteboard. Ask students to correct in their pairs and then check answers as a class. Congratulate students on their hard work and risk-taking today!

That's interesting. Why
is _____ useful?

Oh really? Why?

I chose _____ also,
but why did you
choose that?

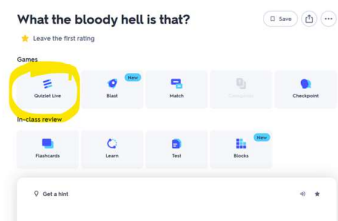
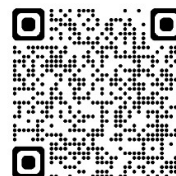
- You will watch a video about a good way to use a can in the jungle. Type on YouTube [Lifehacks for Camping](#) or scan the QR code. →
Can you think of any other ways a can could be useful in the jungle? Look in your bag. Is there anything in it you could use to survive in the jungle? Be creative!

TN → This is a very short video about how to use a coke can to boil water. You could:

- do it in class. Allow 5-10 minutes for discussion and then share ideas as a class.
- Otherwise, you could get students to write a short paragraph for homework or to prepare a quick talk about their own survival hack to bring in for show and tell next time.



For more practice with the words you've learned here, scan the QR code for a set of Quizlet flashcards. You can do some more study on the vocab in this lesson on your own with these. → **TN →** If you have time left over, and your Ss have phones with internet play Quizlet live to consolidate the lesson. You will need to be logged into Quizlet for you to start the game as a teacher. Otherwise, you **cannot** see the icon. Here is a [video](#) on how the game works -



TN → If you don't want to play Quizlet live (or if you don't have the internet) there are many other games you could play to round off the lesson such as back to the board. Instructions [here](#): (we know the videos is kids, but it works for all ages, we promise!)

- This lesson links with: Vocabulary Builder – What's in Your Webbing?
Vocabulary Builder – Parts of a Tactical Field Kit

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TRANSCRIPT

NB – **bold** words are the target vocab. Underlined are the listening for detail answers.

Interviewer – Welcome to our podcast “All things Aussie Army!” Today, I have Private Annie Lewis with me. She is going to talk about her **webbing** and what **gear** she would put in it to **survive** in the jungle. But first, what is webbing, Annie?

Private Annie – G’day Penny, thanks for having me. So **webbing** is also called “load carriage equipment”. It’s a special belt, a vest, and set of **pouches** that soldiers wear. It helps us carry important things for when we are out field. In this way, we can get to important items quickly.

Interviewer – Thanks, Annie. So, are you ready? What 5 things would you choose to survive in the jungle?

Private Annie – I’m always ready, Penny! Well, number 1 is my **canteen**. This is a water bottle. It’s important to fill this up with cool water whenever you can, especially when the weather is hot. Water, as you know, is the most important thing for **survival**.

Interviewer – Yeah, I do know that. So, what’s that silver part of it?

Private Annie – This? This is a **canteen cup**. It’s useful because you can use it for food and drink. It fits on the bottom of the canteen, like this. So the canteen and canteen cup are easy to carry.

Interviewer – Oh, very cool! Now what’s that, is that a **radio**?

Private Annie – It sure is! Radios help us to **communicate** with our commanders. We can share information, get instructions, and tell people where we are. But be careful it has a full battery! A radio is no good with a flat battery!

Interviewer – That’s very true! What’s next?

Private Annie – Next, I have a **compass**.

Interviewer – A compass? Why not just take the **GPS**?

Private Annie – Penny, a GPS doesn’t always work well in the thick jungle. You can always **navigate** though with a compass. And, it doesn’t need batteries!

Interviewer – Oh, I see! What next?

Private Annie – Ok. Next, I have some ration packs, but we like to call them ‘rat packs’. **Ratpacks** are food supplies for when we are out field and we don’t have a kitchen. They are light, small, and easy to carry.

Interviewer – That’s a good idea. So, last one, Annie!

Private Annie – Hmmm, Penny, the last thing I’ll take is my **torch**.

Interviewer – For seeing in the dark?

Private Annie – Yes, but we can also use it to signal when we are in trouble - like sending an **SOS signal**. It can also be used as a weapon. Just always make sure you bring batteries!

Interviewer – Okay! Thanks, Annie! It seems like you have everything you need to survive in the jungle! But what about that last pouch? You haven’t told me about that one yet.

Private Annie – Ah, my last pouch. Hmmm...I put lollies in that one! I always have some with me in case I need a little something sweet!

Interviewer – Ha! Don’t worry Annie. It will be our little secret.

Private Annie – Cool.