



Level: CEFR A2 / ADFELPS 4
and above

Military English

Vocabulary Builder – Parts of a Pistol

TEACHER'S COPY

Overview:

This worksheet presents vocabulary related to the parts of a semi-automatic pistol.

In this lesson, you will

- ✓ learn vocabulary for the parts of a pistol
- ✓ practise using the vocabulary.

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

- 1) This is the new pistol used by the Australian Defence Force (ADF). Look at the image and discuss the questions with a partner.
 - a. Which pistol does the defence force of your country use?
 - b. Compare this one below, to the one you use in your defence force. How similar or different is it?
 - c. Why is it important to learn the English words for the parts of a handgun?

TN → First, make sure students (Ss) know the meaning of 'pistol'. Ask them what kind of weapon is this in the pictures below (They are (semi-automatic) pistols. Some other types of small arms are machine gun, assault rifle, shotgun). Now give them a time limit to answer the questions in pairs. Tell them to look at the photos and read the fact sheet below to help them (they don't have to know all the words in the fact sheet at this point). Answers (ans) for questions (Qs) a and b will vary. Possible ans for c are: if they do an exercise with another country, the language they will use will probably be English, so knowing these parts in English will help them communicate (talk) to the personnel from the other country; if they come to Australia to train, they will need to know these words in English.



Specifications:

- model: Force SIG Sauer P320 XCarry Pro
 - weapon type: semi-automatic pistol **TN →** there are different words to refer to small weapons which can be carried by one person e.g. handgun, firearm, small arms (always plural), sidearm, etc.
 - sight: optical (reflex) **TN →** optical means there is a lens in the (rear) sight
 - calibre: 9mm **TN →** calibre is the size of the rounds, so this is 9mm diameter
 - magazine capacity: 17 rounds* **TN →** this means how many rounds the weapon can carry inside it
- *round= bullet **TN →** explain that bullet and round is the same thing. ADF personnel mainly call it round. It's important for Ss to know this word.

2) Write the words in the correct line below. Look at the example. Continues on the next page.

TN → quickly go over the example then tell Ss they'll have to write the correct words in each letter below. Tell them the exercise continues on the next page. Give them a time limit (e.g. 10min) to complete both pages, then ask those who have finished to check with a partner. Monitor and provide help with wrong ans (if that's the case, tell them the ans is wrong and if they can fix it). Then either check the ans as a class or, if you have time, ask individual Ss to come to the board to write the ans, one S per ans.

sights // magazine release // trigger // torch // trigger guard // takedown lever



TN → there usually are two sights on a firearm – front and rear sights. In general terms we just say sight (singular) to refer to the device that lets us aim at a target.

a. sights

b. takedown lever

c. torch

d. trigger guard

e. trigger

f. magazine release

hammer // safety // magazine // barrel // slide // grip // muzzle



g. slide

h. muzzle TN → make sure Ss don't pronounce muscle /s/

i. barrel

j. grip

k. magazine TN → ADF personnel also call this a 'mag'

l. safety

m. hammer TN → most modern pistols no longer have a safety or hammer, so the weapon pictured here is a Browning Hi Power, which is being phased out in the ADF

3) 🗣️ Listen and check. TN → Play the recording to Ss can check their ans.

4)  Now let's practise saying the words. Listen and repeat. **TN →** Play the recording twice. In the first time, ask the whole class to repeat, then choose random Ss to repeat individually the second time. Check and correct their pronunciation, e.g. if they get the wrong stressed syllable (the stressed syllables in multi-syllable words are underlined in task 2).

5) Speaking. Work with a partner. Play a question and answer game. Your teacher will give you a handout for this task.

TN → this is an information gap type quiz. The handouts are not included in the S's Copy as Ss may see each other's ans. Print enough copies of the handouts on pages 5 and 6 so that there is an even number of student As and Bs (if odd numbered class, ask two Ss to work together).

It's important that Ss don't see each other's pages, as they'll be able to see the ans. Distribute the handouts and ask Ss to read the instructions. Now ask ICQs. 1. Can you show your partner your paper? (no!); 2. Do you ask one Q then your partner asks you another Q and so on? (yes, they can't ask all their Qs at once); 3. Are you going to tick the ans your partners answers correctly? (yes); 4. Are you going to use clear pronunciation? (y).

Once they've started, monitor and help Ss, especially those who might be off-task. For feedback, ask the winners to put their hands up. Praise those Ss.

TN → OPTIONAL EXTENSION TASK → This task should take 20min to complete. It will give further consolidation on the newly learned vocab.

Ask Ss to work in groups of 2-3. Give each group a piece of A4 paper. Tell them they'll have to draw a handgun (a pistol, a shotgun, an assault rifle, etc) they know well, then they'll have to label the parts, as many parts as they can. Give them 10min. Tell the Ss they all have to work together, e.g. one can draw the picture and the other(s) can name and point to where each part goes. If there's a third S in the group, they can write the words on the paper. Tell them to be careful of the correct spelling. Monitor and help as needed. For feedback, hang the drawings on the wall, around the room. Tell Ss to check each drawing and see if there are any parts on the other drawings that they didn't include in theirs. Finally, ask the class for a show of hands on the best drawing. Praise the winners!

STUDENT A

- This is a competition. The student with the most correct answers is the winner.
- Read the clues below to your partner. If they give the correct answer, it's one point for him/her.
- Take turns. You read one clue, then your partner reads you one clue, and so on.

Read these clues to student B.	If student B gives these answers, give them one point.	Put a tick (✓) in each space below if student B answers correctly.
The bullet travels through this when you shoot.	barrel	
If you press this part, the weapon is safe.	safety	
What do you press to fire the weapon?	trigger	
What do you use to aim the weapon?	sight	
Which part protects the trigger?	trigger guard	
Which part holds the rounds?	magazine	
What's one of the parts that fires the bullet?	hammer	
Total:		

STUDENT B

- This is a competition. The student with the most correct answers is the winner.
- Read the clues below to your partner. If they give the correct answer, it's one point for him/her.
- Take turns. You read one clue, then your partner reads you one clue, and so on.

Read these clues 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.
This part opens the pistol for cleaning.	takedown lever	
Which part moves back when you fire the weapon?	slide	
Which part of the handgun do you hold with your hands?	grip	
This part takes the magazine out of the weapon.	magazine release	
What part of the barrel does the bullet come out of?	muzzle	
This helps shooters see in the dark.	torch	
What's another word for bullet?	round	
Total:		

- Scan the QR code and watch the video '[How a Handgun Works: Parts of a Semi-Automatic](#)'. Write down the parts that were not included in this lesson.



TN → This can be done in class or, if set for homework. If in class, Tell Ss you're this is a competition. You are going to play a video and they have to write down the words that were not included in this lesson. The S who writes the most parts correctly is the winner.

Ans, in the order they appear in the video: extractor, tang /beaver tail, slide catch, grip panel, back strap, accessory rail, front strap, firing pin, recoil guide rod, recoil spring, magazine body, magazine floor plate, magazine spring, magazine follower. For feedback, ask the Ss who got all 14 items, then ask who got 10-13 items, and finally who got less than 10. Show ans on the board for all to check spelling.

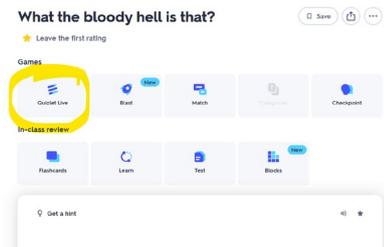
- For more practice with the words you've learned here, scan the QR code for a set of flashcards. You can do some more study on the vocab in this lesson on your own with these. →



TN → If you have time left over, 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 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q64qTBfK0iE>.

Tell Ss learning vocab is a continuous process. If they don't use it, they lose it! They should have good learning habits and using Quizlet is a good way to help them memorise vocab. Ss can save the sets if they have a free Quizlet account.



TN → Vocab. If you don't use it, you lose it! 😊

- This material links with: Lesson – At a Firing Range [listening]
Lesson – Marksmanship Principles [reading]
Vocabulary Builder – Parts of an Assault Rifle