

58 War and violence

A The job of the army



These men are **soldiers**, and they are **carrying guns**¹. They are members of an **army**, and part of the responsibility of an army is to **defend** their country from **attack**² and to **protect** the people³. Sometimes this means they have to **fight** the **enemy**⁴. A long period of fighting is called a **war**, e.g. the First World War, 1914–1918, and during a war there will be a number of **battles**⁵.

¹ have guns with them

² stop others who use violence against their country

³ keep them safe

⁴ the people they are fighting against

⁵ fights between two armies

Language help

Violence is when someone tries to hurt or kill someone; the adjective is **violent**.

The **violence** has increased in recent weeks; There have been a number of **violent** attacks.

B Reporting in war

Ten people were **killed** and many more were injured when a **bomb exploded** (see picture) in **the heart of**¹ the city. The attack happened just before midday, and **destroyed**² several buildings. The army are now **searching**³ the area where the attack **took place**⁴. Most of the attackers **escaped**⁵, but the army believe they may still be **hiding**⁶ in other parts of the city.

During the attack, one soldier was **shot**⁷ and later died. It also appears that another soldier is **missing**⁸. The number of **deaths**⁹ is expected to rise.



¹ the centre of

² damaged them so badly that they don't exist now; NOT completely damaged

³ trying to find someone or something

⁴ happened

⁵ left the place without being caught; *syn* get away

⁶ staying in a place where you cannot be seen or found

⁷ injured by a gun

⁸ It isn't known where someone or something is

⁹ people who are dead / have died

Language help

Several words in the unit can be used as verbs and nouns with a similar meaning.

They're **searching** for them.

He can't **escape**.

When did they **attack**?

They're continuing their **search** for them.

There is no **escape**.

Where did the **attack** take place?

Exercises

58.1 Are these words *nouns*, *verbs*, or *nouns and verbs*?

protect	verb	shoot	
search	noun and verb	war	
die		defend	
attack		escape	
death		hide	

58.2 Complete the sentences with the correct verb.

- The soldiers have been *fighting* for days, and so far three have been injured.
- The woman was with a small handgun, but wasn't seriously injured.
- One of the soldiers managed to under the house where no one could find him.
- There are 20 soldiers surrounding the house, so the men inside cannot
- The bomb inside the café. Nobody was but several people were injured.
- I understand the army are houses in an effort to find the gunman.
- The bomb completely the building, but fortunately no one was inside at the time.
- My men had to the village from outside attacks.
- Were the police guns when they saw the men?

58.3 Choose the correct word to complete the sentences. Sometimes both are correct.

- One man was found but the other is still *lost* / *missing*.
- The *battle* / *war* lasted for two hours.
- The attack happened in the *heart* / *centre* of the city.
- One of the buildings was completely *damaged* / *destroyed*.
- Three of the men are *died* / *dead*.
- One woman *escaped* / *got away*.
- The boy was badly injured and later *died* / *killed*.
- Some of the policemen are not allowed to *hold* / *carry* guns.
- They don't know who *shoot* / *shot* the man.

58.4 Complete the text.

The ¹ *attack* happened early this morning. The ² were out on patrol when they saw the ³ about half a mile away. Moments later a ⁴ exploded quite close to them, and was followed by a ⁵ gun battle which lasted two hours. Two soldiers were ⁶ and several were injured. An ⁷ captain said that they have now taken control of the area where the attack ⁸

58.5 Use a dictionary to develop these word families, and write example sentences for the new words.

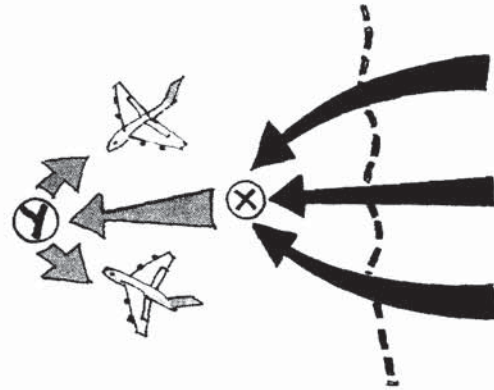
verb	noun	example
protect	protection	The army gave the families protection.
destroy		
explode		
defend		

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A The outbreak (= start) of war

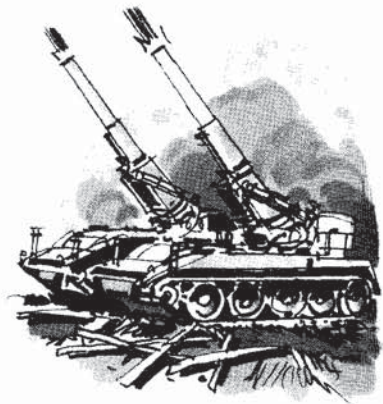
Wars often start because of a **conflict** (= strong disagreement) between countries or groups of people, about **territory** (= land that belongs to one group or country). Look at the diagram on the right and read the text on the left.

Country A **invades** country B (= A enters B by force and in large numbers), and **captures** (also **takes / takes control of**) the city of X. Soldiers from country B have to **retreat** (= go backwards; ≠ to advance) to the city of Y. A's army and air force continue to **attack** the city of Y (= take violent action to damage it), but B's soldiers **defend** it (= take action to protect it) successfully.



B A war zone

The area around the city of Y is now the main **war zone** (= the area where the fighting is happening). Country B has asked for help from its **allies** (= countries who are friends with country B). The allies send aid (= help) in the form of extra **troops** (= large groups of soldiers) and **supplies** (= food and other things that are needed every day, e.g. blankets and medicine) to help. There is **shelling** (= firing of guns and explosives) of the city every day and hundreds of soldiers are either killed or **wounded** (= injured while fighting). Many **civilians** (= ordinary people who are not in the army) are killed as well.



C Peace talks

For the civilians who are still **alive** (≠ dead), the situation gets worse. As winter approaches, food supplies **run out** (= they are almost gone/finished) and there is no electricity. The soldiers get tired, and both sides begin to see that neither side can win the war; they agree to meet for **peace talks** (*pl*) (= talks to try to negotiate a **peace settlement** / an end to the war). After some time they agree to a **ceasefire** (= a period of no fighting).

D Terrorism

This is violent action for political reasons. People who do this are **terrorists**, and a common terrorist crime is **hijacking** (= to take control of a bus, train, ship or plane; the people on board then become prisoners). The main purpose of hijacking is to use the prisoners (called **hostages**) in order to **bargain** for something (= to demand something in exchange for the hostages). The terrorists may agree to **release** (v, n) the hostages (= permit the hostages to go free) if a government agrees to give the terrorists money or release other terrorists.

Exercises

84.1 Match the words on the left with the correct definition on the right.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1 ally | a land controlled by a country |
| 2 release | b stop fighting |
| 3 conflict | c permit to go free |
| 4 troops | d injure while fighting |
| 5 invade | e large groups of soldiers |
| 6 wound | f friendly country |
| 7 territory | g strong disagreement |
| 8 ceasefire | h enter another country by force and in large numbers |

84.2 Use opposites to contradict what the speaker says in the sentences below. Look at the example first.

Example: A: Is the soldier dead?

B: No, he's still alive.

- A: Will they agree to a ceasefire?
B: No, they'll
- A: Do you think the army will try to advance when the weather improves?
B: No, I think
- A: Do the people still have lots of food?
B: No, they're beginning to
- A: Is the town mostly full of soldiers?
B: No, they're
- A: Do you think they'll keep the hostages for a long time?
B: No, I'm sure they'll

84.3 When we repeat an idea in a text we often try to avoid using the same word twice. Read this text and find examples of words being used as synonyms for previous ideas. The first one has been done for you (food and medicine = supplies).

THERE is a desperate need for food and medicine, but with the town surrounded, the lorries are unable to bring in essential supplies. We have seen ordinary people in the street giving some of their meagre rations of food to the soldiers who are defending them, but very soon the troops will be just as hungry as the civilians if the situation gets any worse.

Meanwhile, the centre of the town is being slowly destroyed. There is almost daily shelling of the buildings that still stand, and this morning we witnessed gunmen firing at almost

anyone who dared to go out into the streets. One old woman was hit in the leg and we saw at least two others who were quite badly wounded as well.

Aid agencies have appealed to the soldiers to allow them to enter the town, but so far the General in command has even refused to let anyone in, including doctors and nurses. Many fear it is now only a matter of days before the town is captured, and if this happens, the army could take control of the whole region within weeks.

84.4 Can you answer these questions with two reasons for each one? If possible, discuss your answers with someone else before checking with the key.

- Why do terrorists take hostages?
- Why do some governments always refuse to agree to terrorist demands?

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48.1 Rewrite the underlined parts of these sentences using expressions based on the word in brackets.

10 marks

- 1 The government is trying to overcome drug trafficking in this country. (WAR)
- 2 It's regrettable if politicians resort to warfare to achieve what they want. (ENDS)
- 3 If only we could make war illegal. (OUTLAW)
- 4 The guerrillas threw a fire bomb at the building. (DEVICE)
- 5 Why not call everyone together and explain the situation to them? (RALLY)
- 6 A nuclear war could result in all mankind being killed. (ANNIHILATION)
- 7 Using germs to cause disease among the enemy is internationally banned. (BIOLOGICAL)
- 8 England was heavily beaten by Australia in the final match. (ROUTED)
- 9 Hostilities often begin for some petty reason. (BREAK)
- 10 There are international troops there to help keep the peace. (PEACEKEEPING)

48.2 Explain the difference between these expressions.

10 marks

- 1 *a truce* and *a ceasefire*
- 2 *a siege* and *an ambush*
- 3 *hostilities* and *warfare*
- 4 *to break out* and *to cease*
- 5 *to place an incendiary device* and *to set off an incendiary device*

48.3 Complete these sentences using a word based on the root in brackets.

10 marks

- 1 Some people argue that possessing weapons of mass destruction may act as a (DETER)
- 2 We all experienced feelings of against the atrocities committed in the war. (REVOLT)
- 3 During the war the city was for over two years. (SIEGE)
- 4 Greg and his three old friends formed the of the new theatre company. (NUCLEAR)
- 5 Two tribes have been fighting for control of the area for years. (WAR)
- 6 The new law the police to arrest suspected terrorists. (POWER)
- 7 No one has really proved whether there is a relationship between watching violent films and behaving in a violent manner. (CAUSE)
- 8 The museum is devoted to the history of from Roman times to the present day. (WAR) (2 answers)
- 9 Military are understood to have begun in the area last night. (OPERATE)

48.4 Which word can fill the gaps in both phrases?

10 marks

- 1 to with anger; bombs
- 2 the of war; an of flu.
- 3 to visit a holiday ; the last
- 4 to a campaign; to a ship
- 5 warfare; a TV on the roof
- 6 the great ; to have supernatural
- 7 to give money to a good ; to a war
- 8 the to an end; a of transport
- 9 to a bomb; to on a trip
- 10 to war; to earn the minimum

Your score

/40