

Up in Arms?

Activity 1

Discuss the following questions with your partner.

1. Decide with your partner what the following verbs mean: to fight, to march, to shoot, to be armed.
2. Do you know anybody in the army? Would you like to be a soldier/married to a soldier? Why/not?
3. What qualities does a good soldier need, do you think?
4. In what emergency peacetime situations is the army deployed in your country?
5. Does the army do a good job, in your opinion?
6. Is it a good idea to use soldiers in a peace-keeping role? Why/not?
7. What are the advantages and disadvantages of allowing women and homosexuals in the army?
8. Do you think your government is sending your troops to the right countries? Why/not?
9. How much do you think a soldier should be paid? Explain your answer.

Activity 2

Complete the sentences with the following words and phrases in the correct form.

*a fighting chance armed to the teeth to be fighting fit to fight something off to soldier on
to give someone his/her marching orders to go over the top to hold the fort troubleshooter up in arms*

1. The students were when the teacher said that there would be a test every week.
2. The bank robber carried two pistols, a shotgun and two hand grenades. He was.....
3. The company the latest takeover bid but I don't know if it will be able to defend itself so well next time.
4. Our national football team is not the best in the world but it is very good. I think it has of winning the next World Cup.
5. Her father was very ill last year but he has recovered now. She says he again.
6. The boss Laura this morning because she is always late for work.
7. They always spend a huge amount on their children's birthday presents. I think they
8. Who while the boss is away? Who is in charge during his absence?
9. The two parties in the dispute could not agree so they asked for a to mediate.
10. She couldn't stay in bed when she had flu because she had 3 small children to look after so she just had to

Activity 3

Use the following questions to begin a conversation with your partner.

1. Have you ever been *up in arms* about something? If so, what? And why were you angry?
2. Have you ever *fought off* an illness without using medication? If so, how? What did you do?
3. Are you *fighting fit*? If yes, what do you do to stay fit? If not, why not?
4. Have you ever *given someone their marching orders*? What is the first thing you would do if someone gave you your marching orders?
5. Do you know someone who *goes over the top* in some situations? Give examples.
6. In what situations do you *go over the top*?
7. Who *holds the fort* when necessary in your family/your workplace?
8. Who is the *troubleshooter* in your family? Why?
9. Have you ever had to *soldier on* in a difficult situation? If so, what happened?

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Activity 4

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. Which of the following is not mentioned in the TP Homework?
a) The Cavalry b) The Artillery c) The Military
2. What was discovered in China in the 9th century, according to the TP Homework?
3. Why is the Italian phrase 'arte de tirare' mentioned in the TP Homework?
4. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

Activity 5

Women and homosexuals should not be allowed to join the army. Discuss.

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!

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