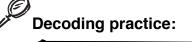
## Day Two Serving Their Country, Losing Their Children Part 1: Tricky phrases and words

→ Read these phrases and words **out loud** to your partner.

The U.S. Army creed says		
Tanya is a member of the National Guard		
She tried in vain		
But because she could still be called overseas		
that protects soldiers serving overseas		
soldiers	SOHL   jerz	
mission	MIH   shun	
National Guard	NASH   un   al GARD	
custody	KUS   tuh   dee	



- Underline the vowel combo in the words below
- Write a long vowel sign <sup>-</sup> above the first vowel in the vowel combo
- Put a slash / through the second vowel in the vowel combo

Then read the word to your partner. Make the first vowel long (it says its name). Make the second vowel silent. The first one has been done for you.

cr <u>e</u> ed	raised	vain
goal	mean	lead

Passage 4

## Day Two // one minute Serving Their Country, Losing Their Children Part 2: Last read

Today, many U.S. soldiers are parents. The U.S. Army creed says, "I will always place the mission first." Some soldiers have found that carrying out their mission can lead to losing a child.

Tanya is a member of the National Guard. While her son was young, her Guard postings	49	
were in the U.S. But when he was 11, Tanya got new orders: she was being sent to Iraq.	68	
While she was gone, her ex-husband went to court. He wanted custody of their son.		
When Tanya came home, the boy she had raised was gone. She told her story on The	101	
Oprah Winfrey Show. "It was like someone ripping my heart out," she said.		
Tanya tried to show the judge that she was a good mother. She tried in vain. The judge	132	
said that she was a good mother. But because she could still be called overseas, the judge	149	
gave custody to the father.	154	
Vanessa is another military mom. When Vanessa's son was 14, she was sent to serve in	170	
Afghanistan. One day, she got chilling news. She told CBS News, "I had gotten an email	186	
from my son's father that says, 'You need to get a lawyer. I'm not sending your son back	204	
to you.'"	206	

State law sets rules about custody. Most states do not protect soldiers in custody battles.221Some soldiers now have a goal: they want a federal law that protects soldiers serving236overseas. They say serving your country should not mean losing your child.248

## Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Should parents who fight overseas always get their children back after they serve?

Talk to your partner about your answer. What did your partner say?

Passage 4