

Name:

## Day Two

# EODs: The Toughest Job

## Part 1: Tricky phrases and words



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

- U.S. soldiers serving all over Iraq faced over 100 IEDs each day
- are called Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians
- after spending time with an EOD unit in Iraq
- He told *CBS News* that EODs have a special kind of mental toughness
- that enables them to be calm under extreme stress

- insurgents                      in | **SUR** | jents
- Improvised                      **IM** | pruh | vyzd
- Ordnance                      **ORD** | nens
- Disposal                      dis | **POH** | zul
- technicians                      tek | **NIH** | shuns
- Engelhardt                      **ENG** | ul | hart



### Decoding practice:

- Underline the vowel combo
- Write a long vowel sign  $\bar{\text{v}}$  on top of the first vowel in the combo
- Cross out the second vowel in the combo
- Say the word with your partner. Make the first vowel long (it says its name).  
Make the second vowel silent.

The first one is done for you.

tēams

featured

Booal

explained

volunteer

approach



## Day Two

// one minute

# EODs: The Toughest Job

### Part 2: Last read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

Improvised Explosive Devices, or IEDs, were the number one killer of U.S. soldiers during the Iraq War. IEDs are homemade bombs. In Iraq, they popped up everywhere. Insurgents buried IEDs along the roadside, put them on suicide bombers, and hid them in cars. At the peak of the war, U.S. soldiers serving all over Iraq faced over 100 IEDs each day. 60  
61

The soldiers who work to disarm IEDs are called Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians, or EODs. EODs work in two- to three-person teams. They perform a dangerous job: they disarm bombs before they explode. The work of EODs in Iraq was featured in the movie *The Hurt Locker*. 73  
87  
102  
109

EOD units use robots, dogs, sensors, and metal detectors to find IEDs. Sometimes robots can be used to disarm bombs. Other times, the EODs must strap on 70-pound bomb suits, approach the bomb, and disarm it themselves. 123  
139  
147

EOD teams have a demanding job. Writer Mark Boal wrote *The Hurt Locker* after spending time with an EOD unit in Iraq. He told *CBS News* that EODs have a special kind of mental toughness. “They have to have a mindset that enables them to be calm under extreme stress,” he explained. 161  
178  
194  
199

To join an EOD team, soldiers must volunteer. Some soldiers choose to become EODs because they enjoy the sense of adventure. Retired EOD Henry Engelhardt told *CNN*, “It’s the best fun thing in the world, a continuing challenge . . . You’re up against the mind of another person.” 213  
226  
242  
245

### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

If you were in the military, could you see yourself on an EOD team? Why or why not?

Share your answer with your partner. What does your partner think?