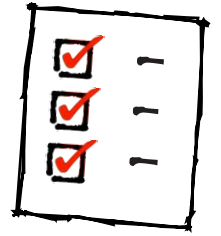


Name:

Day Two

Bomb Experts in Iraq

Part 1: Tricky phrases and words



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

- Insurgents buried IEDs along the roadside
- At the peak of the war
- are called explosive ordnance disposal technicians
- about serving with an EOD team in Iraq
- Although the goal was to disarm bombs

- ordnance **ORD** | nens
- disposal dis | **POH** | zul
- technicians tek | **NIH** | shuns
- detectors dih | **TEK** | terz
- Castner **KAST** | ner



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.

t $\bar{\text{e}}$ ~~a~~ms

roadside

peak

volunteer

approach

steep



Day Two

// one minute

Bomb Experts in Iraq

Part 2: Last read

WPM _____

Improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, were the number one killer of U.S. soldiers in the Iraq War. IEDs are homemade bombs. In Iraq, they were everywhere. Insurgents buried IEDs along the roadside. They strapped them to their bodies and hid them under cars. At the peak of the war, U.S. soldiers faced over 100 IEDs each day. IEDs killed soldiers and civilians but also caused terrible injuries.

61
67

The soldiers who work to disarm IEDs are called explosive ordnance disposal technicians, or EODs. EODs work in teams of two or three. Their goal is simple: they disarm bombs before they explode.

79
95
100

EOD units have many ways to find hidden IEDs. They use dogs, sensors, and metal detectors. Sometimes they use robots to disarm bombs. Other times, the EODs put on 70-pound bomb suits, approach the bomb, and disarm it by hand.

115
130
141

To join an EOD team, soldiers volunteer. Brian Castner wrote *The Long Walk*, about serving with an EOD team in Iraq. Castner also talked to *NPR* about his experiences.

155
170

Although the goal was to disarm bombs, bombs would often explode as the team was working. Castner suffered brain injury and memory loss from being close to so many bomb blasts. He lost some of his hearing and could not sleep well. Talking about how he felt, Castner said, “Crazy was the best way to describe it.” Although EODs saved many lives, they paid a steep price.

185
199
216
231
237

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

If you were serving in the military, would you volunteer to be an EOD? Why or why not?

What does your partner think? Write down your partner's ideas about serving as an EOD.
