

# Ranks



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Operační program Vzdělávání pro konkurenceschopnost

Název projektu: Inovace magisterského studijního programu Fakulty ekonomiky a managementu

Registrační číslo projektu: CZ.1.07/2.2.00/28.0326

## Warm-up

*Work in pairs*

- Why did you join the army?
- What advantages / disadvantages do you have as a soldier of the ACR?
- Are you proud of your uniform?
- Which branch do you belong to? Why did you choose it?
- What is your rank?
- What rank would you like to achieve during your professional life?

# Reading and vocabulary

a) *Put the following words under the correct headings.*

corporal, artillery, logistics, squadron, private, battalion, engineers, transport officer, infantry, lieutenant, brigade, sergeant, ammunition technician, second-in-command in a company, regiment, platoon commander

<u>Ranks</u>	<u>Branches of the army</u>	<u>Army units</u>	<u>Appointments</u>
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1 corporal

2

3

4

b) *Your teacher will give you a set of cards of the Czech Army ranks. Work in pairs and put them in order. The highest rank is **General** and the lowest is **Private**.*

Resource: Kol. autorů: Breakthrough

# Reading and vocabulary

*Read the following recording of the British Defence Attaché's speech. What is he talking about?*

Let's start with the non-commissioned ranks. A young man or woman join the army on an engagement of 3, 6 or 9 years with the intention that they have a career of 22 years. And within that 22 years they would Hopefully, if all went well, climb the promotion ladder from private to lance corporal, to corporal and then the big one to sergeant, where they enter the Sergeants' Mess and once they're there, they look for further promotion to staff sergeant and then to warrant officer of which we have two classes, class 2 and class 1. Maybe they'll become the regimental sergeant major of their regiment or battalion, and if they're lucky, they are then commissioned into the Officers' Mess and they become the transport officer, the families' officer, the quartermaster of that regiment where their previous soldier experience is fantastically useful. So that's the non-commissioned end.

The commissioned officers now mostly are graduates, mostly in their mid-twenties and after university They attend our Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst for a year and come out as a second lieutenant. I think after about 18 month a full lieutenant and then comes captain. The most interesting rank in the British Army probably is captain, where they start really to take an active interest in things like staff work. They are second-in-commands of their companies, and they are doing important courses for their future promotion. Then major, which is where we command our sub-units. So a squadron or company is commanded by a major. The big promotion really for us is then from major to lieutenant colonel. And lieutenant colonels command regiments, and that is sadly probably, unless you are very lucky to command a brigade, last time you will actually work with soldiers. Full colonels, the majority of brigadiers, work in staff appointments and on headquarters, some generals work in field appointments and some of them on the staff. But the last time you get to command soldiers in reality is a lieutenant colonel level and at regimental level.



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## Speaking and writing

- c) *Work in pairs. Look at the text again and make as many questions as possible. Then ask your partner.*
- d) *Work in pairs. Compare the British promotion ladder with the Czech one. What is the same / similar and what is different?*
- e) *Explain the typical stages for officers and non-commissioned officers rising through ranks in the Czech Armed Forces.*
- f) *Prepare a short speech about the ranks in the Czech Armed Forces and report it to the class.*
- g) *Write a short essay on the ranks in the Czech Armed Forces.*

Resource: Kol. autorů: Breakthrough

## Reading

*Read the text in which Paul Jackson speaks about his job.*

My name's Paul Jackson and I've been in the Army for three years. I serve in the Royal Logistics Corps.

I walked into the careers centre while I was doing my A-levels and thought "do I really want to go to university now and do an office job?" I'm a mountain biker at heart and love to be outdoors whenever possible, so I decided I'd look for an outdoor lifestyle. I also wanted to go and do something exciting, see the world. The Army provided ideal solution.

In 2003 I attended bomb disposal training at a highly prestigious centre in the USA, where I was posted for six months. After I completed the course, I was promoted to corporal. I was also appointed as an ammunition technician - I carry out the inspection, repair, and disposal of all ammunition, including guided missiles. I can also be employed on bomb disposal tasks for both military and police authorities.

In my job I've got to make quick decisions, be confident and be very professional, because people are putting a lot of trust in me. I like having this sort of responsibility.

*h) Go to the next slide and complete the table.*

Resource: Kol. autorů: Breakthrough



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	PAUL	ME
a Rank		
b Date of promotion		
c Current appointment		
d Branch of the army		
e Temporary posting in the past		
f Purpose of posting		
g Reason for joining the army		

## Speaking and writing

*i) Work in pair. Ask and answer the questions using a–g above. Take notes to report to the class.*

*j) Work in groups of three and discuss the following questions. Take notes to report to the class.*

- 1 What affects promotion in your army?
- 2 Is it possible for a WO (warrant officer) or NCO (non-commissioned officer) to be promoted from the ranks?
- 3 How many times can a serviceman be promoted below the zone?
- 4 What are typical jobs for women, if any, in your army?
- 5 Are there any positions that women are not allowed to hold in your army?
- 6 Should MoD employees have ranks?

# Thanks for your attention.



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