

## A War

When **war broke out**<sup>1</sup>, my grandfather **joined the army**. **War was declared** on his 25th birthday. He didn't want to **go to war** but he had no choice. The government were sending troops to the south where they expected **fierce fighting**. At first there were just **minor incidents** but soon it developed into **all-out war**<sup>2</sup>. My grandfather has told me how terrified he was the first time he came **within firing range**<sup>3</sup> of the enemy. They saw him and **opened fire**<sup>4</sup> but he was able to escape. A couple of his friends, though, were killed or **taken prisoner**. After several months our **army went into action** in the first **decisive battle** of the war. The **battle raged**<sup>5</sup> for several days. My grandfather said he hated being involved in **fighting the war** and that the only armies we should have should be **peacekeeping forces**. He can never forget **the horrors of war**, and he believes that we must do everything we can to **avert**<sup>6</sup> war in the future. I agree.

- <sup>1</sup> suddenly started  
<sup>2</sup> a complete/total war  
<sup>3</sup> the distance within which the enemy could hit him by firing their guns  
<sup>4</sup> started shooting  
<sup>5</sup> the battle was very violent  
<sup>6</sup> prevent something bad from happening



## B Peace

collocation	example
bring about peace	It will be no easy task to <b>bring about peace</b> in the area.
negotiate a peace agreement	It can be useful to invite a neutral country to help <b>negotiate a peace agreement</b> .
call a truce/ceasefire	Although <b>a ceasefire has been called</b> for the duration of the peace negotiations, hopes of its success are not high.
sign a (peace) treaty	At the end of the war, all the countries involved <b>signed a peace treaty</b> in Paris.
lasting peace	Hopes for a <b>lasting peace</b> are, unfortunately, fading fast.
peace activist	<b>Peace activists</b> around the world staged a series of massive demonstrations against the war.
keep the peace	After the war was over, UN troops were sent into the troubled area to help <b>keep the peace</b> there.
restore order	Soldiers were sent in to <b>restore order</b> after the uprising.

## C War expressions in everyday language

The police fought a running battle with football hooligans in the town centre.

The people of the village put up a heroic fight against the construction of the new motorway, but finally lost the battle.

The bank robbers didn't offer any resistance when the police surrounded them.

The President is fighting for his life tonight in the City hospital after a major operation.

## TIP

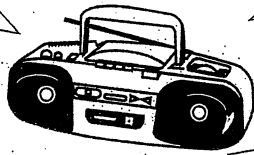
Some collocations connected with war and military action are also used in a business or political context, e.g. a **price war**, to **fight crime**, a **war on crime**.

## Exercises

38.1 Use a word from the box in the correct form to complete the extracts from news broadcasts.

go horrors join avert fight open rage

1 The president said he is ready to ..... to war against Collocania. He said he had done everything possible to ..... war, but now there was no alternative.



3 The army will continue to ..... the war against the drug barons.

2 A two hour battle ..... in the Raguni district today after troops ..... fire on rebel positions.

4 The president said that young persons who ..... the army must expect to fight to defend their country. They would experience the ..... of war, but they must be brave.

38.2 Rewrite the sentences, replacing the words in brackets with collocations from the opposite page.

- The war between Adverbia and Collocania (started) in 1983 after a dispute over territory in the northern province. At first there were just (small events) but it soon turned into (a full-scale war). The war ended after (a battle which finally decided the course of events) in 1987.
- There was (very violent fighting) in the capital city yesterday. United Nations (forces who will maintain peace) are expected to enter the city as soon as (the armies say they will stop firing at each other).
- Forces sent in to (make the peace continue) in the troubled region of Phrasalia had to (turn back) after they came (within the firing distance) of rebel artillery.
- The Sornak Republic today (officially stated that it was at war) against Hobrانيا.
- Armed troops were sent in to (bring order again) after the riots and violence of last week.
- Even though the two sides (put their names to a document officially stating that the war was at an end) last July, fighting has started again and hopes for (a peace which might continue for a long time) are fading.
- As more of our soldiers were killed or (captured and put in prison), (people who were actively promoting peace) organised demonstrations against the unpopular war.
- Representatives of the two sides are meeting in Zurich in an attempt to (make peace) in the troubled region. It is hoped that they will (have negotiations and agree the details for peace) which both governments can accept.

38.3 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- The police fought a walking battle with a group of violent demonstrators.
- I feel we are missing the battle to persuade the management to increase our salaries.
- The students made up a heroic fight against the plan to increase course fees.
- I was surprised that the Management Committee sent no resistance to our demands.
- A tiny baby with a rare heart condition is fighting his life in the General Hospital tonight.

38.4 Use your dictionary to find two more collocations for each of these words.

army soldier battle weapon to fight peace

**FOLLOW UP**

Look at the Peace section of the United Nations website – [www.un.org/peace/](http://www.un.org/peace/). Make a note of any interesting collocations that you find there.

## Unit 37

- 37.1 1 Marianne 4 Philip  
2 Catherine 5 Anthony  
3 Briony
- 37.2 1 soared 4 rock-bottom/ridiculous  
2 ridiculous/low price 5 went; go up / rise  
3 reasonably priced
- 37.3 1 make 5 raise  
2 making; steady 6 small; tied up  
3 tight 7 big; seriously  
4 going; short

## Unit 38

KEY

WAR and Peace

- 38.1 1 go; avert 3 fight  
2 raged; opened 4 join(ed); horrors
- 38.2 1 The war between Adverbia and Collocania **broke out** in 1983 after a dispute over territory in the northern province. At first there were just **minor incidents** but it soon turned into **all-out war**. The war ended after a **decisive battle** in 1987.  
2 There was **fierce fighting** in the capital city yesterday. United Nations **peacekeeping forces** are expected to enter the city as soon as a **ceasefire** is called.  
3 Forces sent in to **keep the peace** in the troubled region of Phrasalia had to **withdraw/retreat** after they came **within (firing) range** of rebel artillery.  
4 The Sornak Republic today **declared war** against Hobrania.  
5 Armed troops were sent in to **restore order** after the riots and violence of last week.  
6 Even though the two sides **signed a peace treaty / peace agreement** last July, fighting has started again and hopes for a **lasting peace** are fading.  
7 As more of our soldiers were killed or **taken prisoner**, peace activists organised demonstrations against the unpopular war.  
8 Representatives of the two sides are meeting in Zurich in an attempt to **bring about peace** in the troubled region. It is hoped that they will **negotiate a peace agreement** which both governments can accept.
- 38.3 1 ... a running battle ...  
2 ... losing the battle ...  
3 ... put up a heroic fight ...  
4 ... offered no resistance ...  
5 ... fighting for (his) life ...

### 38.4 Possible answers:

**army** – an army advances, marches, retreats; to mobilise an army; a victorious army  
**soldier** – veteran soldier; rank-and-file soldier; a wounded soldier; to serve as a soldier  
**battle** – a fierce battle; a battle of words; a battle of wits; to go into battle; to win/lose a battle  
**weapon** – deadly weapon; chemical weapon; biological weapon; to carry a weapon  
**to fight** – to fight bravely; to fight bitterly; to fight hard  
**peace** – to make peace; the peace process; a peace conference; to take part in a peace demonstration