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# I. The British Armed Forces

## Вооруженные силы Великобритании

### 1. Read the text.

#### *Thy Army, Navy and Air Force*

The three main services of the British Armed Forces are the British Army, the Royal Navy (RN) and the Royal Air Force (RAF). Traditionally, we think of the army as operating on land, the air force in the sky and the navy on the seas. However, with modernization of equipment and changing global politics, joint operations are becoming more and more common. All three services, for instance, have both air and ground units. In addition, special units, like the Joint Rapid Reaction Force and the Joint Helicopter Command, combine troops and resources from the different branches for more efficient operations.

#### The Army

The British Army is the largest service of the British Defence Forces and the major land component of NATO's rapid reaction forces. It can be divided as follows:

##### Combat Arms:

- Infantry (foot soldiers)
- Royal Armoured Corps and the Household Cavalry (the cavalry were formerly on horses, now in light tanks and armoured vehicles)
- Army Air Corps (which originally gave rise to the elite special operations force, the Special Air Service or SAS, though the SAS is now considered part of the Infantry). The Air Corps handles combat missions, observation and reconnaissance, and light transport of troops and equipment.

##### Combat Arms Support:

- Royal Artillery
- Royal Engineers
- Royal Signals (communication and informational technology)
- Royal Intelligence Corps.

##### Combat Service Support:

- Royal Logistics Corps
- Royal Army Medical Corps
- Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

## The Royal Navy

The Royal Navy (RN) ensures the security of the United Kingdom and its overseas territories. It also helps to support foreign policy and provides assistance to merchant ships.

The RN includes:

- frigates (medium-size warships)
- destroyers (small, fast warships, usually with anti-aircraft or anti-submarine armaments)
- nuclear submarines
- aircraft carriers (the Invincible class carrier is capable of carrying eight Sea Harrier jets and twelve Sea King Helicopters, as well as other aircraft from the RAF and Army Air Corps)

The air branch of the RN is the Fleet Air Arm, which is in charge of aviation operations on the carriers. The Royal Marines, also under RN command, are trained and equipped for land operations, and are deployed around the world on various missions.

## The Royal Air Force

The Royal Air Force (RAF) was reorganized in April 2000 to meet the needs of the changing world order, with more emphasis on rapid reaction and joint forces co-operation. The RAF is divided into two commands: the Personnel and Training Command (responsible for recruitment, training and job-related issues), and the Strike Command (which contains the operational units). The Strike Command consists of three groups:

- No.1 Group: responsible for all frontline attack aircraft
- No. 2 Group: responsible for frontline support aircraft ( including transport, air-to-air refueling and information collection)
- No. 3 Group: responsible for the Joint Force Harrier squadrons, maritime patrol, and Search and Rescue. A naval officer rather than an RAF officer currently commands this group.

### 2. Learn active terms and expressions.

the British Armed Forces	Британские вооруженные силы
the British Army	сухопутные войска Великобритании
the Royal Navy (RN)	Королевские военно-морские силы
the Royal Air Force (RAF)	Королевские военно-воздушные силы
a service	служба

an armed service	вид вооруженных сил
an arm	род войск
a unit	часть (подразделение)
a regiment (regt)	полк
Infantry (INF)	пехота
Royal Armoured Corps (RAC)	королевский бронетанковый корпус
the Household Cavalry	кавалерия
Army Air Corps (AAC)	военно-воздушный корпус сухопутных войск
the Special Air Service (SAS)	подразделение специального назначения военно-воздушных сил
the Air Corps	военно-воздушный корпус
Royal Artillery (RA)	королевская артиллерия
Royal Engineers (RE)	королевские инженерные войска
Royal Signals (RSIGNALS)	королевские войска связи
Royal Intelligence Corps (INTCORPS)	королевский корпус разведки
Royal Logistics Corps (RLC)	королевский корпус материально-технического обеспечения (тыл и снабжение)
Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC)	королевский медицинский корпус сухопутных войск
Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME)	королевские электромеханические инженеры
the Royal Marines (RM)	королевская морская пехота

### 3.Translate.

Main services, air units, ground units, special units, the joint Rapid Reaction force, the Joint Helicopter Command, combine troops, close support, observation, reconnaissance, overseas territories.

### 4. Find the right equivalents in the text.

Основные виды вооруженных сил, главный компонент сил быстрого реагирования; легкие танки и бронетанковые машины; регулируют боевые задачи, наблюдение и разведку; обеспечивать безо-

пасность Объединенного Королевства и его заморских территорий, помощь торговым кораблям, они развертываются по всему миру с различными целями; ответственны за все атаки самолетов на переднем крае.

**5. Answer the questions.**

1. What main services do the British Armed Forces consist of?
2. Where did these services traditionally operate?
3. Why are joint operations becoming more common?
4. What is used for more efficient operations?
5. What is the major land component of the British Armed Forces?
6. What arms does the British Army consist of?
7. What do Combat Arms include?
8. What are Combat Arms Support?
9. What does Combat Service Support consist of?
10. What is the mission of the Royal Navy?
11. What does the Royal Navy include?
12. What are the roles of the Fleet Air Arm and The Royal Marines?
13. What is the Royal Air Force divided into?
14. What is the function of two commands?
15. What groups does the Strike Command consist of?
16. What are these groups responsible for?

**6. Make diagram of the British Armed Forces structure.**

**7. Decode and translate.**

RA	RN	RLC	AAC	regt	INT CORPS	RAMS
RM	SAS	RE	R SIGNALS			

**8. Listen to the text and fill in the missing words.**

The British Army \_\_\_\_\_ the different \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the army as \_\_\_\_\_, Combat Arms Support and \_\_\_\_\_. The Combat Arms are \_\_\_\_\_ involved in fighting. The Combat Arms include \_\_\_\_\_, the Infantry and \_\_\_\_\_. The mission of Combat Arms Support corps is to provide close support to \_\_\_\_\_. The Combat Arms Support corps include \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and the Intelligence corps. \_\_\_\_\_ include the Royal Logistic corps, the Royal Army Medical corps and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

## II. The Arms and Services

### Виды и формирования ВС Великобритании

#### I. Read the text.

Each branch (also called an arm or service) within an army has a specific purpose.

Combat arms units fight the enemy directly. The infantry (or foot soldiers) is the oldest of these. Infantry soldiers engage the enemy face-to face, often with small arms.

Field artillery units control large-caliber guns. The artillery provides fire from long distances.

Armored divisions employ tanks for front-line combat.

There are also combat support arms such as the Corps of Engineers and Military Police. These units do not typically fight the enemy directly. Instead, they offer support to units that do.

#### 2. Choose the words from the text that are similar in meaning.

1. branch: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,
2. infantry: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,
3. combat support arms: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

#### 3. Match... .

- |            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. foot    | a. the enemy    |
| 2. field   | b. artillery    |
| 3. engage  | c. of Engineers |
| 4. armored | d. support arms |
| 5. combat  | e. soldiers     |
| 6. Corps   | f. division     |

#### 4. Choose the correct answers.

1. What is the role of field artillery units?
  - a. to support foot soldiers from long distances
  - b. to provide the infantry with weapons
  - c. to perform maintenance and constructions
  - d. to engage the enemy in face-to-face combat
2. Field artillery units use \_\_\_\_\_ as their primary weapons.
  - a. rifles
  - b. large-caliber guns

- c. armored vehicles
  - d. tanks
3. What can be inferred about the Corps of Engineers?
- a. They are the oldest branch of the military.
  - b. They accompany armor into battle.
  - c. They aren't primarily trained for direct fighting.
  - d. They face the enemy frequently.

**5. Match and learn more about arms and services and their missions.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The mission of the engineers is</li> <li>2. The mission of the intelligence corps is</li> <li>3. The mission of the medical corps is</li> <li>4. The mission of the signals unit is</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. to operate the communication systems.</li> <li>b. to provide medical support.</li> <li>c. to build roads and bridges.</li> <li>d. to collect information about enemy.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|









**6. Complete the text. Use these verbs.**

attack	operate	transport	command	provide	fly	collect
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The mission of the Army Air Corps (AAC) is to \_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_ all the British Army's helicopters. The main function of the AAC helicopters is to \_\_\_\_ enemy armor, but they are also useful for other missions, for example, to \_\_\_\_ from the air, to reconnoiter and \_\_\_\_ information, to \_\_\_\_ troops, supplies and equipment and to \_\_\_\_ medical support.

**7. Study the table below.**

Symbol	Unit	Approx. Size (in troops)	Commander
xxxx 	Army	100,000+	general
xxx 	Corps	30,000-80,000	general
xx 	Division	10,000-20,000	general

	Brigade	2,000-5,000	colonel/general
	Regiment	2,000-3,000	colonel
	Battalion	300-1,500	lt. colonel
	Company	70-250	captain/major
	Platoon	25-60	lieutenant
	Section	8-12	corporal/sergeant
	Squad	8-16	corporal/sergeant
	Fireteam	4-5	corporal

### 8. Complete the text with words from the table.

British Army organisation.

The \_\_\_\_\_ is the smallest element in the army. The section commander is a corporal and the second in command (2IC) is a lance corporal. An infantry \_\_\_\_\_ has between eight and ten men.

A \_\_\_\_\_ has three sections. The platoon commander is a second lieutenant or lieutenant. A sergeant is second in command. An infantry \_\_\_\_\_ has between 29 and 36 officers and men.

A \_\_\_\_\_ has three platoons. The commander is called the OC (officer commanding). In the British Army the OC is a major. The 2IC is a captain. The senior NCO is a company sergeant major (CSM).

An infantry \_\_\_\_\_ has five companies. The commander is called the CO (commanding officer). The CO is a lieutenant colonel and his 2IC is a major. The senior NCO is the regimental sergeant major (RSM).



**9. Mark each sentence as true or false. Correct the false statements to make them true.**

1. A section has four men.
2. The section commander is a sergeant.
3. A company has three platoons.
4. The company OC is a captain.
5. A battalion has nine platoons.

**10. Listen to the text and answer the questions.**

The organisation of Army greatly increases its effectiveness.

The smallest unit in a modern army is the fireteam. This is made up of four to five soldiers. Two or three fireteams together make up a squad. Similarly, two or more squads form a platoon (25-60 people). Above the platoon is the company (2-8 platoons, with 70-250 soldiers)

A battalion can include up to 1,500 troops. Two or more battalions make up a regiment and two to four regiments create a division consisting of 10,000-20,000 soldiers. An army is commanded by a general and can have more than 100, 000 troops.

1. According to the passage, what is the purpose of military organization?
2. What is the most basic unit in a modern army?
3. What army unit is most likely to be commanded by a colonel?
4. How many battalions are required to make a regiment?
5. What is the largest unit mentioned in the text?

**11. Match the unit names with its size**

- |              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. fireteam  | a. 20,000 soldiers  |
| 2. company   | b. 4-5 soldiers     |
| 3. battalion | c. 100,000 soldiers |
| 4. division  | d. 1500 soldiers    |
| 5. army      | e. 25 soldiers      |
| 6. squad     | f. 10 soldiers      |
| 7. platoon   | g. 250 soldiers     |

**12. Answer the questions. Use these numbers.**

about 730	30-40	8-10	8-12	about 16,000	236-313	100-200
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1. How many soldiers are there in a section in the British army?
2. How many soldiers are there in a squad?

3. How many soldiers are there in a platoon?
4. How many soldiers are there in a company?
5. How many soldiers are there in a battalion?
6. How many officers are there in a brigade?
7. How many NCOs and soldiers are there in a division?
8. What is the smallest unit in the modern army?

### 13. Learn active terms and expressions.

a unit	часть; подразделение; соединение
a fireteam	огневая группа
a squad (sqd)=section (sec)	группа; команда; отделение; оружейный расчёт
a platoon (plat,pl)	взвод
a company (co)	рота
a battalion (bn)	батальон
a troop	отряд, группа людей
troops (trp)	войска, вооружённые силы
a regiment (regt)	полк
a division (div)	дивизия
corps	корпус (войсковое соединение), род войск
army corps	армейский корпус
squadron (sqdn)	эскадрон; артиллерийский дивизион
batteries (btr)=company (co)	батарея, рота
a brigade (Bde)	бригада
commissioned officer (ComO)	офицер
noncommissioned officer (NCO)	унтер-офицер

### 14. Read and translate.

The smallest unit under a noncom off (NCO) as leader is the fire-team=squad. It is a team which can be controlled by one man, generally by use of his voice. The number of men assigned to a squad varies from 8 to men.

The platoon consists of a plat leader, and off the gr of Lt, and two or more sqds. The plat is the smallest unit to be commanded by a commissioned off (ComO).

The company is commanded by a cpt. It includes its headquarters, two or more plats. In the arty, the term “battery” is used instead of co, and the term “section” corresponds to the sqd.

In cavalry units, the term “troop” is used instead of co. Sqds, secs, bties, trps are units of separate arms and secs.

Traditionally, the battalion includes its combs, his stf and hq elm, with two or four cos.(inf), bties(FA), or trps (cav).

In the div there are from six to fifteen cbt bns.The div is commanded by a major general. The typical div has a strength of 15,000 offs and men.

Divs are grouped into army corps, the ACs into Field armies, and the Field armies into army groups. An AC consists of its hq, two or more divisions. A Field army consists of its hq, two or more ACS, armour and perhaps an armd div, and other orgs. An army group are all large units and are referred to collectively as units of the combined arms and sevice.

There are different names for units in different branches of the army.

Armour, artillery and engineer units (including signal units) equivalent to infantry platoons are called troops. Armour units and engineer units equivalent to companies in the infantry are called squadrons. Artillery units at this level are called batteries.

Battalion size units and company size units are frequently grouped in regiment for example, 14<sup>th</sup> Signal or 3d Artillery Regiment. Regiments are commanded by a colonel. Units may be organized in a different way for combat. These groups are called battlegroups or task forces.

### 15. Decode.

Div	NCO	Bde	Sec	AC	Bn	COMO
Sqdn	pl	Sqd	Btr	Co	Regt	trp

### 16. Answer the questions.

1. What is the smallest unit in a modern British army?
2. What is the total strength of a squad?
3. By whom is a squad commanded?
4. What does a platoon consist of?
5. Who commands a platoon?
6. How many platoons are there in a company?
7. Whom is a platoon commanded by?
8. What is the equivalent to infantry platoons in other branches of the army?
9. How do we call armour and engineer units in the Infantry?

10. What does a battalion include?
11. What is the total strength of a divisions?
12. By whom is it commanded?
13. What large formations do you know?

### **III. The Ranks**

#### **Звания**

##### **1. Read the text.**

The use of ranks in armies is nothing new. In fact, some modern ranks existed in the Middle Ages, such as the rank of captain.

Today, there are two main groups: enlisted soldiers and officers. Enlisted soldiers have no command authority. They rank below all commissioned officers. Enlisted soldiers begin with the rank of private.

There are two types of officers. A non-commissioned officer (NCO) like sergeant is given some authority. However, NCOs are not full officers. A warrant officer is a type of NCO. They are often technicians and specialists. Commissioned officers begin with rank of lieutenant. They must undergo special training to receive their “commission”. Commissioned officers such a generals command armies or major parts of armies.

##### **2. Mark each statement as true or false. Correct the false statements to make them true.**

1. The ranks used by armies today were created by armies in the Middle Ages.
2. Enlisted soldiers only have command authority over non-commissioned officers.
3. The rank of private is the lowest rank that a commissioned officer holds.
4. Warrant officers are considered non-commissioned officers.
5. The lowest commissioned rank is the rank of lieutenant.

##### **3. Choose the correct answer for each question.**

1. Which of the following is a non-commissioned officer?
  - a) a private
  - b) a sergeant
  - c) a general
2. Which job might a warrant officer have?
  - a) infantry man
  - b) field medic
  - c) artillery targeting technician

**4. Choose the rank in each pairing that is higher in authority.**

1. sergeant major/ sergeant
2. private/ corporal
3. colonel/general
4. lieutenant/ command sergeant major
5. captain/ lieutenant colonel

**5. Study the illustration.**

