

PART 1

VERBS

Read the text below and fill in the gaps with the verbs from the box. You might need to change the verbs into past. Then, listen and check whether you were right or wrong. You can make changes once you listen to it.

refuse retire think over send offer (x2) feel confident change his mind serve
sound be confused realise decide be proud discuss plan tell help

Lieutenant James's Big Decision

Lieutenant James had _____ in the army for eight years. One day, his commander _____ him that the army wanted to _____ him on a tour of duty overseas.

"You are a good soldier," the commander said. "We would like you to go."

James thanked him, but he needed time to _____ the decision. He enjoyed being a soldier, but he was also thinking about his future.

A few days later, James received an offer from a local college. They _____ him a place to study engineering. On the same day, a construction company _____ him a job.

James _____ because he had three different choices: continue his military career, study, or start working.

That evening, he decided to _____ the situation with his parents.

His mother said, "Education is very important. You can educate yourself and have more opportunities in the future."

His father agreed. "The job _____ good, but a degree can help you later."

At first, James wanted to _____ to go to college. He thought earning money immediately was the best choice. He _____ to accept the company's job offer.

However, after several days, he _____. He _____ that studying would help him achieve his long-term goals. As a result, he _____ to turn down an offer from the company and accept the college's offer instead.

"I will study now and work later," he told his family.

James also knew that one day he would _____ from the army. When that time came, his education would _____ him start a successful new career.

Everyone _____ of his decision, and James _____ about his future.