

1 Weaponry: Pistol



*Beretta
M9 pistol*

A **pistol** is a **sidearm**. Soldiers can **aim** and fire it with one hand. Pistols are smaller than other firearms, making them useful in **close combat**.

Modern pistols, such as the Beretta M9, are **semi-automatic**. This means that they do not need to be **charged** between rounds.

Officers most often carry **handguns**. In fact, **service pistols** have great symbolic meaning. When a unit is defeated, the **commanding officer** often gives his sidearm to the enemy **commander**. This shows that the unit **surrenders**.



1 What does the passage say about aiming the pistol?

A Its size makes it difficult to aim. B It can be aimed with one hand. C Semi-automatic pistols are easy to aim. D It is hard to aim in close combat.

2 What can be inferred about pistols in the past?

A They had to be charged between rounds. B They were less accurate than pistols today. C They were larger than modern pistols. D They were given to all members of an army.

3 Giving a pistol to an enemy commander symbolizes ...

A the desire to join the enemy. B competition between military units. C the surrender of a unit. D a victory in a battle.

1 Which phrase describes a style of military fighting?

A semi-automatic B commanding officer C close combat

2 What must a soldier do to a pistol to allow it to fire rounds?

A surrender it B aim it C charge it

Vocabulary

3 Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1 The soldiers took orders from the person in charge of a military unit.

(o _ _ _ _ d _ r)

2 Hostilities in a war cease when one side states that it has lost and will stop combat operations.

(s _ _ _ _ _)

1

(p _ _ _ _ _)

2

(_ _ d _ a _ _)

3

(_ _ n _ _ _ n)

4

(s _ _ _ _ c _) (i _ t _ _)

Listening

5 Listen to a speaker at a weapon manufacturing facility. Fill in the notes.



The M9 Pistol

Round capacity:

Ideal use:

Length:

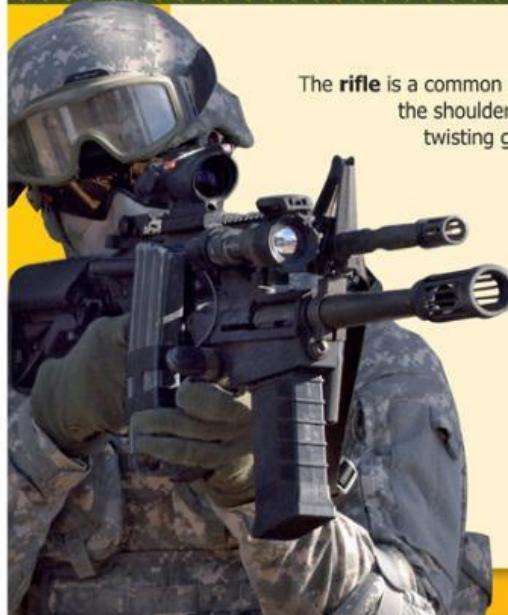
Weight:

Round:

Soldiers and a pistol with one

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Weaponry: **Rifle** 2



The **rifle** is a common military **firearm**. Soldiers **fire** it from the shoulder. It has a built-in **sight**. The **barrel** has twisting grooves on the inside. These spin the **bullet**, improving the weapon's **accuracy** and **range**. In fact, this weapon was named after the technique used to make the barrel: "**rifling**."

At one time, rifles could fire only one **round** at a time. However, modern semi-automatic **assault rifles** (also called "**assault weapons**") like the M16A2 can fire **multiple-round bursts** with a single pull of the trigger.

- 1 The rifle has a sight that is built in. True
- 2 The rifle is named after the technique used to make the trigger. True
- 3 Spinning the bullet improves the weapon's rate of fire. True
- 4 Today, rifles can fire multiple bullets with one trigger pull. True

2 Choose the correct definition for each word.

1 *accuracy*

- A** the distance a weapon can shoot
- B** a type of firearm
- C** the ability to hit a target
- D** the speed that bullets are fired at

2 *automatic*

- A** able to fire multiple bullets
- B** able to spin bullets
- C** able to hit targets at long distances
- D** able to be fired from the shoulder

3 *burst*

- A** a type of bullet
- B** a device used to aim
- C** a rifle that fires many bullets at once
- D** a series of bullets shot with one trigger pull

4 *rifling*

- A** a firearm with a long barrel
- B** a way to make a firearm barrel
- C** the part of a weapon that makes it fire
- D** a bullet that is shot from a rifle

Vocabulary

3 Choose the word or phrase that is similar in meaning to each given word.

1 *rifle*

- A** assault weapon
- B** sight
- C** range
- D** barrel

2 *round*

- A** firearm
- B** burst
- C** bullet
- D** accuracy

Listening

4  Listen to a conversation at a firing range. Choose the key vocabulary that you hear.

▶ 0:00 / 0:00   

Select one or more:

- rifle
- firearm
- fire
- sight
- barrel
- bullet
- accuracy
- range
- rifling
- round
- assault rifles / weapons
- multiple-round bursts

Listening

5  Listen again to the conversation. Then complete the answers.

▶ 0:00 / 0:00   

1 What type of firearm will the soldier use?

An M16A2 .

2 What does the soldier say is the firearm's range?

The effective is 460 .

3 What does the sergeant instruct Private Barnes to do?

Aim and five into the .

Speaking

6 Talk about rifles. Use the words below to fill in the gaps.

shoulder | firearm | fire | pull of the trigger | bullet | multiple-round bursts | grooves | barrel | built-in sight

A rifle is a type of [] . It has a [] and you [] it from the [] . The [] 's twisting [] spin the [] to make it more accurate. A single [] can produce [] .