

**Activity 1**

*With your partner discuss the difference between the following types of guns.*

pistol   rifle   handgun   machine gun   shotgun

**Activity 2**

*Fill the gaps in the sentences below with the following phrases and idioms.*

to gun for   to go great guns   to jump the gun   like a shot   to stick to one's guns   shotgun wedding  
lock, stock and barrel   to give something one's best shot

1. He was interrogated for four hours but he didn't tell them anything. He .....
2. She didn't win the competition but she tried very hard and .....
3. You could say that the company that produced souvenirs of Prince William and Kate Middleton's wedding in advance ..... because they acted too soon.
4. The burglars took absolutely everything - ..... – even the light bulbs!
5. 'It was a .....'  
'How do you know?'  
'Because the baby was born only five months later!'
6. 'That website is very successful and efficient, isn't it?' 'Oh, yes. It's .....
7. If George Clooney asked me to marry him I wouldn't hesitate. I would say 'Yes' .....
8. The new senator is very ambitious. They say he is ..... president.

**Activity 3**

*Use the following questions to begin a conversation with your partner.*

1. Do you own a gun? If so, what do you use it for?
2. In your opinion, is it a basic human right for people to be able to own, carry and use guns?
3. How old must you be to buy a gun in your country? Do you think this age limit is right?
4. How easy or difficult is it for people in your country to buy a gun?
5. Is it better to keep guns at home or at gun clubs?
6. In your opinion, do people have the right to shoot intruders in their home?
7. Do you think there should be a limit on the number of guns one person can own? If so, what do you think would be a reasonable number?
8. Are hunting, shooting and target practise popular pastimes in your country? Why do you think this is?
9. Have you ever been in a situation where you have had to stick to your guns? What happened?
10. Do you know anyone who had a shotgun wedding? What was it like?
11. Have you ever jumped the gun in a situation? What happened?
12. Gun ownership is quite common in many countries but gun violence seems most prevalent in the United States of America. Why do you think this is?
13. In your opinion, what can be done to reduce gun-related crimes?
14. To what extent do you think the film and music industries glorify guns?
15. What do you think can be done to prevent people going on killing sprees and shooting large numbers of members of the public (e.g Hungerford, UK, Virginia Tech, USA)?

**Activity 4**

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. How does rifling the barrel of a gun increase firing accuracy?
2. When did breech-loading guns become widespread?
3. According to the statistics, which country are you most likely to be shot in – the UK, the USA or South Africa?
4. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

**Activity 5**

**'Would it be safer for nobody to have a gun or for everybody to have one?'**

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

**N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!**

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