

Intermediate 2
Unit 2: Dialog
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Military Service

Military Service = serving one's own country as a soldier in the army

Civil Service = serving one's own country as a clerk or a teacher

Compulsory Military Service

Compulsory = Mandatory ≠ Optional

Tom and Alex are having a snack at a coffee shop. A soldier passes by, and they start talking about doing military service.

✗ Men have to go to military service at the age of 18.

✓ Men have to do military service at the age of 18.

Tom: You know, I don't think men should be forced to do military service.

Alex: No, I think you are wrong if you don't mind my saying so.

Tom believes military service should be optional, not compulsory.

mind = get upset about

if you don't mind my saying so = if you don't get annoyed because of what I said

Tom: Why do you say that?

Alex: My father says military service teaches a boy how to look after himself.

look after = take care of

Tom: That may be so, but that's what schools are for.

Alex: Well, I think it also teaches him how to work with other people.

That may be so = Perhaps it is true

Tom: Personally, I don't see any point in wasting two years of a boy's life on it.

Alex: Well, we obviously have different opinions.

personally = in my opinion; as far as it regards me

point = purpose

obviously = Clearly

opinion = idea, point of view

Full Text:

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Alex: Well, we obviously have different opinions.

Sample Summary:

Tom and Alex engage in a debate about mandatory military service while at a coffee shop. Tom argues against the compulsion, believing it's a waste of time that could be better spent on education. Alex counters, citing his father's view that military service is beneficial for self-care and teamwork skills. Despite their discussion, they acknowledge their differing perspectives without reaching a consensus.

Source:

[Intermediate 2 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://anglophone.ir)