

Exercise Two: What are they trying to say?

What is really being said in the following real-world writing samples?

1. A doctor records on a patient's chart: "Patient failed to fulfill his wellness potential."

2. U.S. Army talks about "vertically deployed anti-personnel devices."

3. Civilian mechanics at a McClellan Air Force base in California are placed on "non-duty, non-pay status."

4. The Massachusetts Department of Public Works speaks of "ground-mounted confirmatory route markers."

5. A store in St. Louis advertises "semi-antique" rugs.

Takeaways/answers on next page.

Exercise Two Takeaways

Answers:

1. Patient is dead
2. Bombs
3. They were fired
4. Road signs
5. Used rugs