

# Kaboom!



1. How do photographers film the van blast and still protect their camera from being broken?	
2. To create a simple explosion requires three essential ingredients: a means of ignition, a fuel source, and what else?	
3. Canadians did not invent fireworks. People of what nationality first created gunpowder and fireworks?	
4. How high do the fireworks called “starshells” travel into the air before they explode?	
5. What was the name of the English friar who performed experiments with gunpowder in the 13 <sup>th</sup> century?	
6. Saltpeter (potassium nitrate), sulfur, and charcoal are the ingredients required to make black powder. What common substance is a natural source of saltpeter?	
7. When gunpowder ignites it burns rapidly. What can be done to gunpowder to make it explode with greater force?	
8. Give an example of a high explosive	
9. What physical effect would result from tasting nitroglycerine?	
10. There are two types of explosives: high explosives and low explosives. Which of these refers to something that is burning?	
11. To test the safety of an armor-piercing shell, a lump of metal was propelled down a sled track into a warhead. Was the safety test a success?	
12. Which close family member of Alfred Nobel died in a laboratory explosion	
13. What was Alfred Nobel’s most famous invention that made him one of the richest men in the world?	
14. Why is the plastic explosive Semtex called “hot” (i.e. what does “hot” mean)?	
15. What is the problem with using gunpowder as a propellant in weapons?	
16. What prize did Alfred Nobel establish?	
17. The product of a chemical explosion is heat and gases. What is the product of a nuclear explosion?	
18. List one thing that was done to make the demolition of the old cold war weapons more impressive.	