

Name _____

Each year, the citizens of the United States **celebrate** two holidays to remember men and women who fought in wars to preserve our freedom. Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday in May, and Veterans Day is celebrated on November 11.

Day 1

1. What is the silent consonant pair in this paragraph? _____
2. Circle the synonym for **celebrated** as it is used here: **partied** or **observed**.
3. Which sentence is the topic sentence? _____
4. Which holiday has a date that is relative (the date we observe depends on another factor)? _____

Memorial Day began after the American Civil War, when people began decorating the graves of soldiers who had died in the war. Although many claim to have started the tradition, Congress declared Waterloo, New York, the birthplace of Memorial Day when the whole community held a celebration on May 5, 1866.

Day 2

1. Find a compound word in this paragraph. _____
2. What is a grave? _____
3. What is the date of the first **Memorial Day**? _____
4. How do you celebrate Memorial Day? _____

In 1868, the Grand Army of the Republic organized a ceremony at the National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. They called it Decoration Day because they decorated the graves of soldiers. The name was changed to Memorial Day in remembrance of men and women who gave their lives for the **freedom** of the United States.

Day 3

1. Find an example of alliteration in this paragraph. _____
2. What word is the opposite of **freedom**? _____
3. Restate the last sentence in your own words. _____
4. Do you think we should combine the two holidays into one? Why or why not? _____

On November 11, 1918, a treaty was signed between Germany and the Allied forces of the United States, France, Great Britain, Russia, and Italy, putting an end to World War I. It was first called Armistice Day, but it is now called Veterans Day.

Day 4

1. How do you pronounce the **ss** in **Russia**? _____
2. What does **armistice** mean?

A. Beginning of war
B. Declaration of the winner of the battle
C. Parties agree to end war
3. Which two words would you emphasize in the last sentence? _____
4. Name the Allied forces who signed the treaty. _____

Name _____

The Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty is a symbol of freedom and welcome to the world. Frédéric Bartholdi of France sculpted the statue. It was a gift from France to the United States. The statue symbolized friendship between the two countries. It was also intended to honor the birthday of the United States' independence. President Grover Cleveland dedicated the statue in 1886. It became a national monument in 1924. The statue is located on Liberty Island in New York Harbor.

The original name for the statue was Liberty Enlightening the World. The statue's torch is a welcome symbol to immigrants. The crown has seven rays. They symbolize the seven oceans and the seven continents. Liberty has a tablet in her left hand. It shows the date July 4, 1776. The broken chain at her feet symbolizes freedom. Her Greek robe symbolizes Greece as the birthplace of democracy.

Liberty stands on a pedestal. Americans had to raise money to pay for the pedestal. Joseph Pulitzer was editor of *The World*, a New York newspaper. He thought the statue was a great idea. His newspaper ran articles about raising money for the statue. He published the names of people who gave money. He even listed the names of children who sent pennies. Americans raised \$250,000. That was enough money to pay for the pedestal.

1. What are the prefix, root, and suffixes in **Enlightening**? _____

2. What is a symbol?
 - A. An image that stands for an idea
 - B. A part of a drum kit
 - C. A statue
3. What is the main idea of paragraph 2? _____

4. What is the symbol for the oceans and continents? _____
5. Would you have sent in pennies to pay for the pedestal? Why or why not? _____
