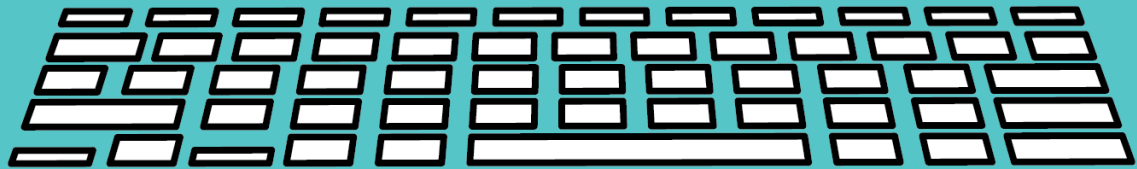
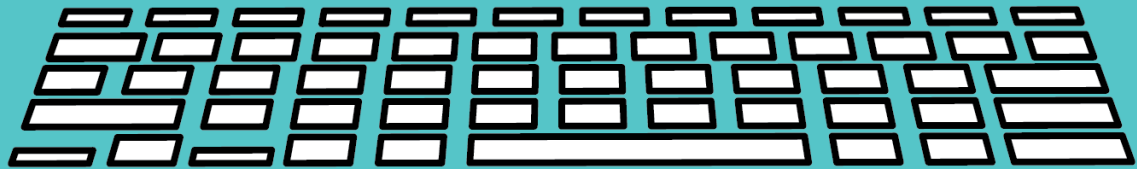


THE SPOLETT
BURIED IN THE
TOMB OF THE
UNKNOWN WAS
GIVEN THE
MEDAL OF
HONOR

Short Answer	Type Answer Here
1. What year was the first Memorial Day celebration?	
2. What is the official flower for the day?	
3. What day of the week does Memorial Day happen on?	
4. How many hours a day is the Tomb guarded?	
5. What year did it become a federal holiday?	
6. In what state is Arlington Cemetery?	
7. What song is often played at ceremonies?	
8. What was Memorial Day originally called?	



Short Answer	Type Answer Here	Fill in the Blank	Type Answer Here
1. What year was the first Memorial Day celebration?		9. Memorial Day was originally for soldiers from the ___ War.	
2. What is the official flower for the holiday?		10. Arlington became a military cemetery in the year ___.	
3. What day of the week does Memorial Day happen on?		11. The Tomb of the ___ Soldier is a memorial.	
4. How many hours a day is the Tomb guarded?		12. The ___ is guarded by military ___.	
5. What year did it become a federal holiday?		13. The 21 steps and seconds relate to the ___ salute.	
6. In what state is Arlington Cemetery?		14. President Richard ___ declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.	
7. What song is often played at ceremonies?		15. The tradition of red poppies came from John ___.	
8. What was Memorial Day originally called?		16. There is a ___ minute Moment of Remembrance.	



MEMORIAL DAY

The first Memorial Day celebration was on May 30, 1868. The day was first observed by placing flowers on Union and Confederate soldiers graves. After World War I, Memorial Day was changed from honoring those who lost their lives in the Civil War to honoring all Americans who died in any war.

Memorial Day is dedicated to service men and women who risked their lives for freedom. Memorial Day is a federal holiday celebrated annually in the United States. President Richard Nixon declared Memorial Day a federal holiday in 1971. Americans were encouraged to travel to Arlington National Cemetery.

General James Garfield was buried at Arlington National Cemetery to a crowd of 5,000. He said, "If justice is ever gained, it must be beside the graves of 15,000 men whose lives were more sacred than speech, and whose death was a poem the music of which is everlasting." The 5,000 participants decorated the graves of over 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers.

Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day. The name Memorial Day began to gain popularity in 1882. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed by all on May 30. May 30 was chosen because flowers would be in full bloom. Congress officially changed Memorial Day to the last Monday in May. The holiday was officially changed to Memorial Day in 1967.

Memorial Day is spent as a time of reflection. There is a one minute National Moment of Remembrance at 3:00 PM across the United States. Many Americans use the one minute to reflect on the heroes who bravely fought for our freedom.

People may volunteer to place flags at cemeteries, attend a parade or visit a war memorial. In Washington D.C., there is an annual concert on the front lawn of the U.S. Capitol. "Taps" is often played at ceremonies on Memorial Day. Playing Taps on a trumpet or bugle has been a tradition for over 150 years.

The official flowers of Memorial Day are red poppies. The tradition of wearing red poppies on Memorial Day came from a poem by John McCrae called "In Flanders Fields." He wrote, "In Flanders fields the poppies blow, Between the crosses, row on row." The red poppy symbolizes the blood shed protecting America's freedom.

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Memorial Day is often confused with Veterans Day. Veterans Day honors all military veterans, while Memorial Day honors the soldiers who bravely died while defending their country. More American lives were lost during the Civil War than in the two World Wars combined.

Approximately 620,000 soldiers died during the Civil War. During World War I, 116,516 died and 405,399 died in World War II. There are more than 300,000 fallen soldiers buried at Arlington Cemetery. Arlington National Cemetery is a United States military cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, outside Washington, DC.

The cemetery land was once part of the estate of Martha Washington's son. In 1864, Arlington became a military cemetery. Presidents John F. Kennedy and William Howard Taft are buried in Arlington National Cemetery. The first military burial at Arlington National Cemetery didn't occur until 1864. However, today the burial ground holds the remains of soldiers who fought in every war since the American Revolution.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a memorial or grave dedicated to soldiers whose body has not been identified. An unidentified soldier from World War I was returned from a cemetery in France and transferred to the United States.

Congress approved the burial of the unidentified World War I soldier on March 4, 1921. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is in Arlington National Cemetery and was dedicated on September 11, 1921.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers is a white marble coffin. Today it is the final resting place for Unknown Soldiers from World War I, World War II and the Korean War. It represents the sacrifices of those who fell during the wars.

The Tomb is guarded by Military Sentinels. The Sentinel walks 21 steps, faces the tomb for 21 seconds, turns around and waits 21 seconds. He begins his 21 steps in the other direction and is repeated over and over for their 30 minute shift. The steps and waiting time add up to the 30 minute salute. A 21 gun salute is the highest honor given to a soldier. The Tomb is guarded 24 hours a day, 365 days.

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