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This is a story about a day to remember people who have fought for our country.

## We Remember

Josh was excited. Today he was going to watch his brother march in a parade. His brother Matt was in high school. He played the big bass drum in the high school band. Josh was going to walk next to the band as it went down the street.

Josh's granddad was coming, too. Granddad came in the door. He was wearing a green hat. Josh had never seen the hat before. Granddad said it was a special hat. It told people that he had been in the military. He said today was Memorial Day. It was a day to remember people who had served our country in the military. Some people were in the army like he was. Some people were in the navy. Some people were in the marines. Some people were in the air force.

Before they left for the parade, Granddad had Josh help him put a flag outside the house. Granddad said this was one way to remember people in the military. He said the parade would go by important places. The parade would end in the town's cemetery.



Josh and his granddad went to the parade. They saw Matt at the back of the high school band. The parade started. The band played patriotic songs. Josh and his granddad walked along. The parade stopped next to a statue of a soldier. It stopped next to a building. The building had a big sign with the names of people who had been in the military. Finally, the parade ended at the town's cemetery. Josh saw many flags on the graves. He saw many red, white, and blue ribbons. He saw many flowers.

There was a crowd at the cemetery. A man spoke about the brave people in the military. A woman read a poem. Another man told about his friends in the army. It really was a day to remember. Josh felt very proud.



# Understanding the Story

Here are some questions about the story that you just read. Read each one. Then fill in the circle beside the best answer. If you are not sure, go back and look at the story again.

1. Who was going with Josh to the parade?

- (A) his best friend
- (B) his granddad
- (C) his mother
- (D) his sister

Factual

2. What was Josh's brother Matt going to do in the parade?

- (A) lead the parade
- (B) ride on a float
- (C) play in a band
- (D) ride a horse

Factual

3. Why did Granddad put a flag outside the house?

- (A) He did it every day.
- (B) He did it as a summer decoration.
- (C) He did it to celebrate the Fourth of July.
- (D) He did it to remember people in the military.

Inference

4. Why did the parade stop at a statue and a building?

- (A) so the parade marchers could rest
- (B) to honor people in the military
- (C) to let traffic pass by
- (D) so the band could play a song

Inference

5. Why were the ribbons in the cemetery red, white, and blue?

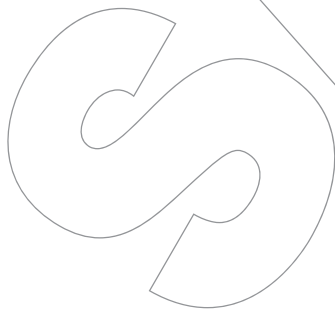
- (A) They are the most popular colors.
- (B) They were the colors of the high school band.
- (C) They are the colors of our flag.
- (D) They were the cemetery's colors.

**Critical Reasoning**

6. Why is it important to remember people who serve in the military?

- (A) Their job is to defend our country.
- (B) They don't have families of their own.
- (C) They like their jobs.
- (D) They work hard.

**Critical Reasoning**





# Summing Up



Josh and his granddad did many different things on Memorial Day. Show what you remember about the story in the boxes below. Write what happened in each of the places. Some ideas are already written for you.



At Home	During the Parade	At the Cemetery
	Parade stopped at a statue	A woman read a poem



# Write About It

Sometimes it is hard to think about what to write in a sentence. You just don't have any ideas. One way to practice writing sentences is to take some words from the story. Then put the words together in your own sentence.

Look at these examples:

<i>Granddad hat parade</i>	→	<i>Granddad wore a special hat to the parade.</i>
<i>Matt drum band</i>	→	<i>Matt played the bass drum in the band.</i>

Now try some sentences on your own. Put the words together to make new sentences.

1. granddad      flag      house

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2. building      sign      names

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3. flowers      flags      cemetery

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