

# **MEMORIAL DAY**

# **THE ROLE OF THE ARMED FORCES**

*Reading Comprehension*

**NO-PREP &  
EDITABLE**



## **THE ROLE OF THE ARMED FORCE IN AMERICAN HISTORY**

Throughout American history, the armed forces defended freedom and helped shape our nation from the Revolutionary War to today. From great challenges to great triumphs, the men and women of the military have been vital in shaping America.

**THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR**  
The Revolutionary War, fought from 1775 to 1783, marked the birth of the United States as an independent nation. The American colonies, led by their Second Continental Army General, George Washington, fought against British rule, winning their independence. This conflict was won by many heroic American Revolutionaries, including George Washington, who helped establish the principles of freedom and democracy.

**THE CIVIL WAR**  
Fought from 1861 to 1865, the Civil War is often remembered for the battles fought between the Union Army (the North) and the Confederate Army (the South). One of the most famous battles was the Battle of Gettysburg, where the Union forces under General Robert E. Lee defeated the Confederates under General Lee.



## **ARMED FORCES IN HISTORY**

**Revolutionary War:**  
American colonies rise up

During the Revolutionary

war, the American revolutionaries used their means to defend their own freedoms.

**READING COMPREHENSION  
MCQ'S  
QUESTIONS  
ANSWER KEY**

# READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

## THE ROLE OF THE ARMED FORCES IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Throughout American history, the armed forces defended freedom and upheld democracy. From the Revolutionary War to today, they faced challenges with courage and resilience. The men and women of the military have played a vital role in shaping American history.



### THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The Revolutionary War, fought from 1775 to 1783, marked the birth of the United States as an independent nation. The American colonies, aided by militia forces and Continental Army troops, rose up against British rule, seeking liberty and self-determination. The Continental Army, led by General George Washington, fought against superior British forces, ultimately securing victory and laying the foundation for a new nation founded on the principles of freedom and democracy.

### THE CIVIL WAR

The Civil War, fought from 1861 to 1865, was a defining moment in American history, pitting the Union Army against the Confederate Army in a struggle over the future of the nation and the institution of slavery. The Union Army, under the leadership of President Abraham Lincoln and generals such as Ulysses S. Grant, fought to preserve the Union and abolish slavery, while the Confederate Army sought to defend states' rights and uphold the institution of slavery. The Union's victory in the Civil War resulted in the abolition of slavery and the reunification of the nation.



## READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W  
VERSIONS INCLUDED

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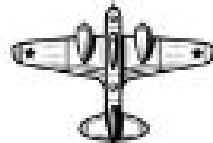


### WORLD WAR I

World War I, from 1914 to 1918, positioned the United States as a global superpower. American forces joined the Allies against the Central Powers, aiding in Germany's defeat. Sacrifice in European trenches secured victory, establishing the US as a voice for peace and democracy.

### WORLD WAR II

World War II, spanning 1939 to 1945, was a defining moment for the US and the world. American forces played a crucial role in defeating the Axis Powers. Their bravery, seen in D-Day and the Battle of Midway, secured victory and reinforced freedom. Sacrifice ensured a brighter future, including the liberation of Nazi concentration camps.



### THE COLD WAR AND BEYOND

Following World War II, the United States emerged as a global superpower and a champion of freedom and democracy. Throughout the Cold War and beyond, the armed forces continued to play a vital role in defending the nation and its allies against the threats of communism and totalitarianism. From the Korean War to the Gulf War, from the War on Terror to peacekeeping missions around the world, the men and women of the U.S. military have stood ready to defend the nation's interests and uphold the values of liberty, justice, and democracy.

### CONCLUSION

The armed forces have been central to the shaping of American history. From the founding of the nation to the present day, through their courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to duty, the men and women of the U.S. military have defended freedom, protected democracy, and ensured the security and prosperity of the United States and its allies. As we reflect on the role of the armed forces in American history, let us honor the legacy of those who have served and sacrificed in defense of the nation's ideals and aspirations.

# THE ROLE OF THE ARMED FORCES IN AMERICAN HISTORY

**DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.**

1. During which war did the American colonies rise up against British rule?
  - A) Civil War
  - B) World War I
  - C) Revolutionary War
  - D) Cold War
  
2. Which war followed World War II?
  - A) Civil War
  - B) Korean War
  - C) Vietnam War
  - D) Cold War
  
3. What role did the United States play during the Cold War?
  - A) Securing the Iron Curtain
  - B) Leading the Free World Powers
  - C) Remaining neutral
  - D) Fighting with the Allies in Europe
  
4. Which war resulted in the creation of the United States?
  - A) Revolutionary War
  - B) World War I
  - C) Civil War
  - D) Cold War
  
5. What was the primary theme of the Civil War?
  - A) The history of American wars
  - B) The role of the Armed Forces in America
  - C) The impact of wars on global leaders
  - D) The strategies of military leaders
  
6. Who led the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War?
  - A) Abraham Lincoln
  - B) Ulysses S. Grant
  - C) George Washington
  - D) Thomas Jefferson
  
7. What was the main goal of the Union Army during the Civil War?
  - A) Preserving the Union and abolishing slavery
  - B) Defending states' rights and upholding slavery
  - C) Securing victory against the Central Powers
  - D) Overthrowing British rule
  
8. In which war did the United States emerge as a global superpower?
  - A) Civil War
  - B) World War I
  - C) World War II
  - D) Cold War
  
9. Which battle is known for the D-Day landings?
  - A) Battle of Midway
  - B) Battle of Gettysburg
  - C) Battle of Normandy
  - D) Battle of Stalingrad

## ANSWER KEY

MCQ's

1. (A) Revolutionary War
2. (B) George Washington
3. (C) Protecting the Union and abolishing slavery
4. (D) World War I
5. (C) Battle of Gettysburg
6. (A) Abraham Lincoln
7. (B) Ulysses S. Grant
8. (C) Civil War
9. (D) The role of the armed forces in American history

### SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. The Armed Forces played a vital role in the Civil War, with the Union Army fighting to preserve the Union and abolish slavery, while the Confederate Army struggled to defend their states and retain the institution of slavery.
2. World War II saw the emergence of the United States as a global superpower.
3. The Armed Forces during the Civil War were led by President Abraham Lincoln and generals such as Ulysses S. Grant.
4. The D-Day landings were a significant victory in World War II, as they marked the commencement of the Normandy Invasion, on June 6, 1944, leading to the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi control.
5. The Armed Forces contributed to the success of the Korean War through various military campaigns and operations, such as the Inchon landing, the Battle of Inchon, and the Battle of Panmunjom or Ceasefire.

**10 - MCQ'S & 5 QUESTIONS**

**ANSWER KEY INCLUDED**

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**NO-PREP !**

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\*FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE



**PowerPoint**