

Remembrance Day: History and Significance

Learning objective: To understand the historical significance of Remembrance Day, the importance of the poppy as a symbol, and the reasons why we commemorate those who served in conflicts.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of Remembrance Day. Read the term on the left, then try to recall the historical context before checking the answer on the right.

What is the historical significance of the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month?

This marks the moment the Armistice was signed in 1918, ending the fighting in the First World War.

Why is the red poppy used as a symbol of remembrance?

It represents the resilient wild flowers that grew in the churned-up soil of the battlefields in Flanders during the First World War.

What is a two-minute silence?

A period of quiet reflection held at 11:00 am on Remembrance Sunday to honour the memory of those who lost their lives in service.

Who was the monarch who officially instituted the first Remembrance Sunday?

King George V, who requested the silence to show respect for the fallen.

What does the term 'Armistice' mean?

An agreement made by opposing sides in a war to stop fighting for a certain time; a truce.

Explain the difference between Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday.

Remembrance Day always falls on 11 November, whereas Remembrance Sunday is the second Sunday in November, when national services are held.

What is the purpose of the Cenotaph in London?

It is a national war memorial, serving as the focal point for the UK's annual Remembrance Sunday commemorations.

Define the concept of 'sacrifice' in the context of war.

The act of giving up one's life or personal safety for the sake of others and for the benefit of one's country.

Justify why we continue to observe Remembrance Day over 100 years after the First World War.

To ensure that the lessons of history are not forgotten, to show gratitude to those who served, and to promote the value of lasting peace.

Compare and contrast the roles of soldiers in the past with the roles of modern Armed Forces.

While technology and tactics have evolved significantly, both groups share the commitment to duty, service, and the protection of national security.