

Remembrance Day: A History Quest with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand the significance of Remembrance Day, its historical origins, and why we observe the two-minute silence.

Join Ellie the Elephant as she uses her incredible memory to guide us through this historical quiz. Read the questions carefully and test your knowledge of how and why we remember the past.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.1918, 4.B, 5.True, 6.False (It is the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month), 7.C, 8.True, 9.Cenotaph, 10.Gratitude. Greater Depth Guidance: Encourage students to consider the emotional weight of historical events rather than just dates. Emphasise that Remembrance is about learning from the past to build a better future.

Word bank: Armistice · Poppy · Cenotaph · Conflict · Trench · Gratitude · Commemorate · Peace

1. What is the primary reason we wear a red poppy? A) It is a sign of spring. B) It represents the soldiers' favourite flower. C) It is a symbol of remembrance and hope. D) It signifies the end of a harvest. (Select one) (1 mark)

2. True or False: Remembrance Day was originally known as Armistice Day. (1 mark)

3. In which year did the First World War officially end? (1 mark)

4. Why do we observe a two-minute silence? A) To give everyone a rest. B) To show respect and reflect on those who lost their lives. C) Because it is a legal requirement. D) To listen for birds. (Select one) (1 mark)

5. True or False: The poppy became a symbol of remembrance because it grew in the churned-up earth of the battlefields in Flanders. (1 mark)

6. True or False: The Armistice was signed at midnight on the 1st of January. (1 mark)

7. What does the word 'Armistice' mean? A) A celebration. B) A new invention. C) An agreement to stop fighting. D) A type of uniform. (Select one) (1 mark)

8. True or False: Remembrance Day is only observed in the United Kingdom. (1 mark)

9. What is the name of the famous war memorial in London where the main Remembrance service takes place? (1 mark)

10. If you were asked to explain the importance of Remembrance to someone younger, what is one key word you would use to describe the feeling of the day? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene of a peaceful garden featuring a single, vibrant red poppy, and write a one-sentence poem underneath it about the meaning of peace.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why it is important for modern society to continue observing Remembrance Day over 100 years later. 2. Compare and contrast how different countries might mark Remembrance. 3. Justify why the symbol of the poppy was chosen rather than a different flower. 4. What might happen to our collective memory if we stopped teaching children about these historical events? 5. If you were designing a new memorial for your local community, which materials would you use and why? 6. Research local war memorials in your area: how do they differ in design and who do they honour?