

Remembrance: Honouring the Past

Learning objective: To write a reflective account explaining the historical significance of Remembrance Day and why we choose to commemorate those who served.

Use the following writing frame to structure your reflection. Ensure you use sophisticated vocabulary and provide historical context for why the 11th of November is a significant date.

As the final notes of the bugle fade into the crisp November air, a profound silence settles over the gathered crowd, marking a moment of collective reflection.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · in commemoration of · a poignant reminder · symbolism · sacrifice · nevertheless · courageous · tribute · perpetual

1. Historical Context: Explain why the date 11th November holds such historical significance and what event concluded on this day in 1918. Start your paragraph with: 'The significance of this date originates from...' (3 marks)

2. Symbolism: Justify why the poppy is used as a symbol of remembrance. Consider its origins in the landscapes of the First World War. Start with: 'The poppy serves as a poignant emblem because...' (3 marks)

3. Reflection on Sacrifice: Compare the lives of those who served in the past to the values we uphold today. Start with: 'Reflecting upon the courage of those who served, one must consider...' (4 marks)

4. Personal Perspective: Explain why it is important for our generation to continue the tradition of Remembrance. Start with: 'It is vital that we maintain these traditions because...' (4 marks)

5. Critical Analysis: What might happen to our collective memory of history if we ceased to observe Remembrance Day? Justify your answer. (4 marks)

6. Creative Extension: Write a short, emotive poem using the style of Leo the Lion, focusing on the themes of peace and gratitude. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a local war memorial in your town or city. Investigate the names engraved upon it—what can these individual names tell us about the impact of conflict on a local community?