

Remembrance Day: Reflecting on Sacrifice and Peace

Learning objective: To write a thoughtful, reflective piece about the significance of Remembrance Day, using emotive language and historical context appropriate for Year 5.

Use the writing frame below to construct your reflection. Ensure your tone is respectful and solemn. Use the word bank to help improve your vocabulary and flow. Aim to explain not just what happens on Remembrance Day, but why it remains a vital part of our national identity.

As the clock strikes eleven on the eleventh of November, a profound silence falls across the nation, marking a moment for us to pause and reflect on the past.

Word bank: solemnly · commemoration · sacrifice · gratitude · resilience · poignant · honour · nevertheless · consequently · in remembrance of · the significance of · a lasting legacy

1. Introduction: Describe the atmosphere during the two-minute silence. How does it make you feel and why is this silence important? Start with: 'During the two-minute silence, the world seems to stand still because...' (2 marks)

2. Historical Context: Explain the purpose of Remembrance Day. What are we commemorating and why do we use symbols like the poppy? Start with: 'Remembrance Day serves as a poignant reminder of...' (3 marks)

3. The Concept of Sacrifice: Explain why the sacrifices made by individuals in past conflicts are still relevant to your life today. Start with: 'The bravery of those who served has shaped our society by...' (3 marks)

4. Justification: Compare and contrast the act of remembering with the act of hoping for a peaceful future. Explain why we must do both. Start with: 'Whilst it is essential to honour the past, we must also look forward because...' (4 marks)

5. Personal Reflection: How can we show respect and gratitude in our own communities? Start with: 'In my local community, I believe we can demonstrate our gratitude by...' (2 marks)

6. Conclusion: Summarise your thoughts on the legacy of peace. Start with: 'Ultimately, Remembrance Day is not just about history; it is a promise that...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are interviewing Ellie the elephant, who has a remarkable memory for history. Write three insightful questions you would ask her about the importance of 'never forgetting'. Then, write a short poem or a 'peace pledge' that outlines one action you will take to promote kindness and understanding in your school.