

How do Americans thank veterans?

- 1 Do you know a person who served in the armed forces? Maybe your grandfather was in the army. Maybe a family friend was in the navy. Maybe your neighbor was a marine. Maybe your aunt was in the air force.
- 2 People who served in the armed forces are called veterans. They served the United States in times of war or peace. There are almost 25 million veterans living in this country. November 11 is a special day for them.
- 3 The First World War ended on November 11, 1918. This day became a holiday. It was a time to thank soldiers who fought in the war. In 1954 the holiday changed. It was named Veterans Day. It became a special day for all men and women who were in the armed forces. They risked their lives to keep Americans safe and free. On this day, some towns have parades, and many people display flags. Schools and post offices are closed.
- 4 There is another special day for veterans in May. It is called Memorial Day. On this day, Americans honor military men and women who lost their lives when they served our country.

Circle the right answer for questions 1–5. Write your answer to question 6 on a blank piece of paper.

1. November 11, 1918 was the date that _____.
A the Second World War ended
B the First World War ended
C Veterans Day was named
D Memorial Day began

2. Which word in paragraph 4 means “to show respect for”?
A special
B military
C lives
D honor

3. Which paragraph tells the number of veterans living in the United States?
A 1
B 2
C 3
D 4

4. In 1954 the holiday changed in order to thank _____.
A the families of veterans
B veterans of the First World War
C veterans who died
D all veterans

5. The article does not say, but you can decide that Veterans Day is the time to honor _____.
A veterans who are still living
B veterans who died
C America’s leaders
D new soldiers



6. What is one thing you could do to thank American veterans on Veterans Day? Tell why this would be a good thing to do.