

Texas Flag Pledge: Say It and Explain It

Recite the Texas flag pledge and explain what its short phrases mean.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Part 1 - Read the Pledge in Phrases

Purpose: You can learn the words of a civic pledge without being asked to agree with a belief. Your job is to understand the words and practice respectful participation.

The Pledge to the Texas Flag

“Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.”

Official wording source: Texas State Library and Archives Commission, “Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas State Flag,” modified Aug. 27, 2025. <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ref/abouttx/flagpledge>

Directions: Read each phrase aloud with your teacher. Then write what the phrase means in your own words. Explain the words; do not write whether you agree or disagree.

Short phrase	What does it mean?
1. Honor the Texas flag	
2. I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas	
3. one state under God	
4. one and indivisible	

Texas Flag Pledge: Say It and Explain It

Recite the Texas flag pledge and explain what its short phrases mean.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Part 2 - Practice an Oral Recitation

Directions: Use the four phrases from Part 1 to help you practice. Say the pledge aloud to your teacher, a partner, or a small group when your teacher says it is time. Speak clearly and in the correct order.

My practice plan

Check the steps you will use.

- ☐ Read each phrase slowly.
- ☐ Put the phrases in order.
- ☐ Practice a second time.
- ☐ Speak clearly and respectfully.

Partner listening job

Listen for:

- ☐ all four parts
- ☐ correct order
- ☐ clear voice
- ☐ respectful participation

Explain aloud: After the recitation, choose one phrase and explain what it means to your listener.

My chosen phrase: _____

My explanation notes:

Reflection: Circle one: I practiced **once** / **twice** / **three or more times**.

If you need an option to observe rather than recite, tell your teacher before practice begins.

Texas Flag Pledge: Say It and Explain It

Recite the Texas flag pledge and explain what its short phrases mean.

Answer Key and Teaching Notes

Materials supplied: Part 1 phrase-to-meaning organizer; Part 2 oral-practice page and partner listening prompts.

Additionally needed: a copy of the current official pledge for teacher reference, pencils, and optional clipboards. No flag is required. Verify the wording before teaching with the Texas State Library source below.

Setup: Print and supply all student pages, keeping teacher-key pages separate. Arrange students so partners can hear each other without needing to shout. Tell students that the activity assesses knowledge of the words and their civic meaning, not personal beliefs. Offer a private recitation, teacher-only recitation, or an observation role for a student who does not wish to recite.

Teacher script: “Today we will learn the Texas flag pledge as a civic text. We are studying what its words say and practicing respectful participation. You are not being graded on your beliefs. Listen as I read the pledge once. Then we will read it in four short parts. Notice that a pledge is a formal promise of loyalty.” Read the official wording once, then lead a phrase-by-phrase echo read. “Write the meaning of each phrase in your own words. Next, you will practice an oral recitation. Your listener will notice clear speech, order, and respectful participation. Afterward, explain one phrase.”

Official wording to verify and read: “Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.” Source: Texas State Library and Archives Commission, “Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas State Flag,” modified Aug. 27, 2025, <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ref/abouttx/flagpledge>

Part 1 acceptable responses: 1. “Honor the Texas flag” means show respect for the state flag. 2. “I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas” means I make a formal promise of loyalty to Texas. 3. “one state under God” means Texas is one state; the pledge includes words that refer to God. Accept a neutral, accurate explanation of the wording. 4. “one and indivisible” means united and not divided into separate parts. Students may use different age-appropriate wording.

Part 2 observation method: Listen to each student during a teacher conference, partner round, or small-group round. Mark each item as demonstrated, developing, or not yet observed. Do not score personal agreement, volume beyond audibility, accent, or religious belief.

Texas Flag Pledge: Say It and Explain It

Recite the Texas flag pledge and explain what its short phrases mean.

Answer Key and Teaching Notes (continued)

Optional oral observation checklist	Mark
1. Recites all four phrase units or uses an approved supported/observing option.	Demonstrated / Developing / Not yet
2. Uses the phrase units in the correct order.	Demonstrated / Developing / Not yet
3. Speaks audibly enough for the intended listener.	Demonstrated / Developing / Not yet
4. Explains one selected phrase accurately.	Demonstrated / Developing / Not yet
5. Participates respectfully.	Demonstrated / Developing / Not yet

Part 2 rubric: A student meets the task when the student recites the pledge in order with reasonable support as needed and gives an accurate oral explanation of one phrase. A student using an observation option may identify the four phrase units in order and explain one phrase orally or in writing; record this as participation support rather than a belief-based penalty. The written notes are planning evidence, not the recitation assessment.