

Flag Words Matter

Read for the meanings in our national symbols and songs.

2.4.c “learning about the meaning of the American flag and the words chosen in the Pledge of Allegiance and the national anthem.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every phrase that explicitly tells what a flag feature or important patriotic words mean. Write F by flag meanings, P by Pledge meanings, and A by anthem meanings.

Symbols and Words

- ① The American flag has colors and shapes that stand for ideas. Its 50 stars stand for the 50 states. Its 13 stripes stand for the original thirteen colonies. Red can mean valor, white can mean purity, and blue can mean vigilance.
- ② When people say the Pledge of Allegiance, they promise loyalty to the United States. The words “one Nation” mean the states are joined as one country. The words “with liberty and justice for all” tell a hope that all people have freedom and fair treatment.
- ③ The national anthem is a song about the United States and its flag. In the song, “the land of the free” means a country where people have freedom. “The home of the brave” honors people who show courage, especially when protecting their country.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What do the 13 stripes on the American flag stand for?

2 What hope is shared by the words "with liberty and justice for all"?

3 According to the passage, who does "the home of the brave" honor?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write exactly two sentences about one word from the passage, such as valor, purity, vigilance, liberty, justice, freedom, or courage. In the first sentence, tell what the word means. In the second sentence, tell how you can show it at school.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline every phrase that explicitly tells what a flag feature or important patriotic words mean. Write F by flag meanings, P by Pledge meanings, and A by anthem meanings. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What do the 13 stripes on the American flag stand for?	They stand for the original thirteen colonies.
2	What hope is shared by the words “with liberty and justice for all”?	The words share a hope that all people have freedom and fair treatment.
3	According to the passage, who does “the home of the brave” honor?	It honors people who show courage, especially when protecting their country.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I choose justice, which means fair treatment. I can show justice by making sure everyone gets a turn in a class game.

Accept accurate meanings from the passage for the questions. For Your Turn, accept any listed word with a sensible meaning and a realistic school action that matches it.