

Modern Voices Answer Key

Responses will vary. Below are examples of accurate paraphrases:

1. Our country was started 87 years ago so people could have freedom.
2. We're fighting a civil war to see if our nation can survive.
3. We are here to honor this land as a burial place for those who died.
4. The soldiers' bravery made this place important, not anything we can say.
5. We must continue the important work the soldiers started in this war.

Teacher's Guide

Objective

- Students paraphrase complex historical language into modern English
- Supports comprehension of primary source documents

Teaching Tips

- Model paraphrasing with an introductory sentence
- Highlight difficult vocabulary (e.g., "endure," "consecrate," "nobly")
- Encourage students to annotate phrases before rewriting

Differentiation

- Provide vocabulary banks or simplified excerpts for developing readers
- Allow students to speak first then write (verbal rehearsal)
- Extension: require two paraphrasing options—formal and casual tone

Engagement Strategies

- Partner "swap and check" for peer feedback
- Create a small group performance: students read original + paraphrase
- Use color-coding (original in one color, paraphrase in another)

Extension Ideas

- Turn paraphrases into a modern mini-speech about unity and democracy
- Compare their rewrites with a translated version used in textbooks
- Connect ideas to present-day civic responsibilities