

Name _____



Stars Of Respect

Directions: Read the passage below about flag etiquette on Memorial Day. Then, answer the comprehension questions that follow to show your understanding.

"The Flag's Silent Message"

Every Memorial Day morning, flags wave proudly across America. But before most people begin their day, a special ceremony takes place-raising the U.S. flag to **half-staff**. This tradition honors the men and women who gave their lives in military service. The flag stays halfway down the pole until noon, symbolizing **mourning and remembrance** for the fallen.

At midday, the flag is raised **to full-staff**, representing **hope and strength** as the nation continues forward. This act reminds everyone that while we grieve for those lost, we also carry on their legacy with pride and unity.

There are also respectful rules for handling the American flag. It should never touch the ground, be worn as clothing, or be used as decoration on items like napkins or plates. When displayed on Memorial Day, the flag serves as a **symbol of sacrifice**, not simply a decoration.

By following these traditions, Americans show that the flag is more than fabric-it's a living tribute to freedom, courage, and honor.

Comprehension Questions

1. Why is the flag flown at half-staff on Memorial Day morning?
2. What happens to the flag at noon on Memorial Day, and what does it represent?
3. Name two respectful rules for handling the American flag.
4. What does the flag symbolize when displayed on Memorial Day?
5. Why do you think flag etiquette is important to follow?